

Lights, camera, action!

U of A employee Peter Dranchuk makes films in his off hours.

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Confronting apathy

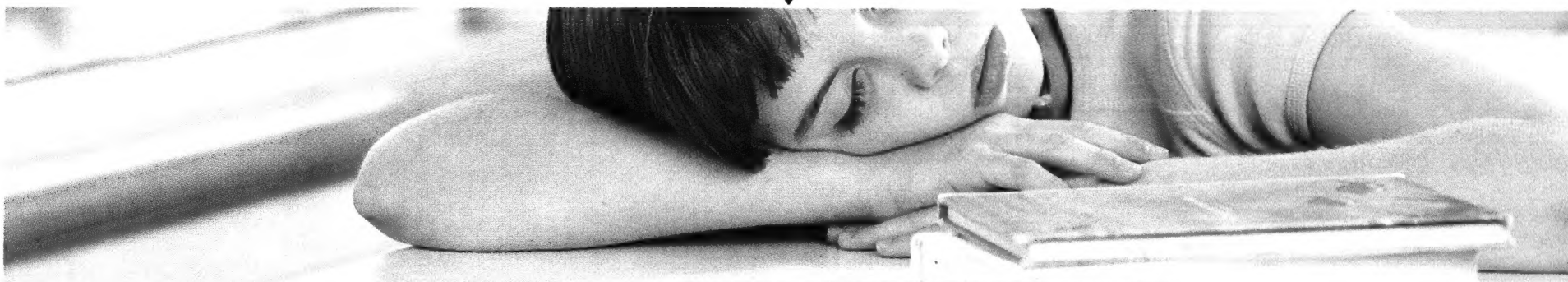
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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

Volume 43 Issue 1

SEPTEMBER 9, 2005

<http://www.ualberta.ca/folio>

English professor awarded University Cup at 10th annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning

Dr. Patricia Demers honoured for 30 years of outstanding teaching and research

By Beverly Betkowski

The University of Alberta today celebrated its 10th anniversary of excellence in teaching and learning today with a sterling lineup of professors and students receiving awards for their hard work and dedication.

Topping this year's list of winners is Dr. Patricia Demers, whose 30 years of stellar teaching and research have earned her the University Cup, the top honor conferred annually by the U of A on one of its faculty members.

"A truly great teacher is one of a university's most valuable resources," said Samarasekera. "Dr. Demers has touched more hearts and stimulated more minds than we can ever count. We are privileged to have her teaching here, and grateful for her contribution."

"Dr. Demers has an extraordinary record of service at the departmental, faculty, university and national level—service that is not only generous, but also imaginative and vigorously performed," said Dr. Daniel Woolf, dean of the U of A Faculty of Arts.

Demers, a professor of English and Film Studies, is also a past recipient of the U of A Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the Arts Faculty Teaching Award, and held the McCalla Research Professorship Award. She also holds the title of President-Elect of the Royal Society of Canada, the first woman to do so since the scholars' group was formed in 1882.

"I'm very humbled to receive the University Cup," said Demers. "Teaching is a wonderfully exciting arena."

Her contagious laugh and sparkling



Dr. Patricia Demers adds the University of Alberta's highest teaching and research prize to a long list of recognitions.

sense of humor have touched hundreds of students over the years, along with her delight in exchanging ideas in the classroom. "Debates happen, ideas are jostled about. It's not scripted, it's always a creative exercise." Indeed, Demers has, on occasion, found herself singing in class—with students sometimes joining in. She was "exhilarated" when she was brought on as a full-time faculty member in 1977. "I was being given a passport to continue exploring."

Demers grew up in Hamilton, Ontario, in the heart of "a large and vocal family"

where it was just naturally assumed that the children would excel in their pursuits. Her schoolteacher mother taught an unusual mix of science and English courses, which meant Demers and her siblings were exposed to both. "The breakfast table would be filled with exams or essays she was marking, and there would be science experiments of some sort on the kitchen stove."

Demers developed a love for languages, and after graduating from McMaster University with an honours degree in English and French, she taught these subjects in high school for two years, introduc-

ing her students to opera and Shakespeare festivals, before realizing she wanted to return to the classroom herself. "I felt myself hungering for another kind of learning."

She completed her PhD at Ottawa University, then came west, where she taught as a sessional instructor at the U of A for three years before being hired as an Assistant Professor. She hasn't looked back since.

Demers researches and teaches in the areas of early modern women's writing, Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, 17th-century poetry, children's literature, and recently dear to her heart, contemporary Canadian women's writing.

"Outside these halls women's writing has been so hidden, so neglected, so undervalued," she said.

Demers is currently working with the U of A's CRC Humanities Computing Studio to develop an online magazine, WWR (Women Writing and Reading). It launches in September. The publication, which Demers is editing, attempts to make both research and creative work accessible to the public—an important goal.

"It enlarges our understanding of the human environment and makes us realize that artistic accomplishments can be diverse: there are graphic novelists, film writers and cookbook writers who deserve mention."

Demers looks forward to whatever new challenges come her way as a teacher and researcher. "I am deeply grateful to the U of A," she observed, "for the privilege of teaching here, and for the opportunities to explore and discover it continues to offer me." ■



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A little salt on those mushrooms?

Fungi may be protecting roadside trees from salt damage, says U of A researcher

By Beverly Betkowski

Those wild mushrooms growing in the forest may be useful for much more than picking – they are potential lifesavers for trees threatened by road salt.

Dr. Janusz Zwiazek, a professor of plant physiology in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta, is studying the effects of mycorrhizal fungi (which spawn wild mushrooms) on trees exposed to high levels of salt. In high amounts, the mineral kills trees by interfering with their uptake of water and nutrients, and has toxic effects that damage the tree's proteins and enzymes.

For the last two years, Zwiazek and his research team have spent the last two years studying seedlings planted in Edmonton and in areas being reclaimed by Syncrude Canada at Fort McMurray, measuring the relationship between the saplings' health and the mysterious effect the fungi have on preventing salt from being sucked into the trees.

The team has been monitoring 700 oak, elm, aspen, larch and spruce seedlings planted along 91 St., Yellowhead highway and the Whitemud freeway – heavy road salt zones – and have discovered that some fungi species appear to be protecting the trees from absorbing the salt.

Confirming tests already conducted in U of A labs, preliminary field results reveal that after two years of fungal treatment, the saplings show improved growth, with

more chlorophyll in the leaves and shoots.

"That means there is more photosynthesis, which means more growth. We don't understand yet how it happens, but it could be that there is some mechanism for excluding salt from the fungal tissue or that the fungi accumulate the salt themselves and keep it away from tree tissues," he said.

His studies have also shown that mycorrhizal fungi increase the ability of tree roots to transport water.

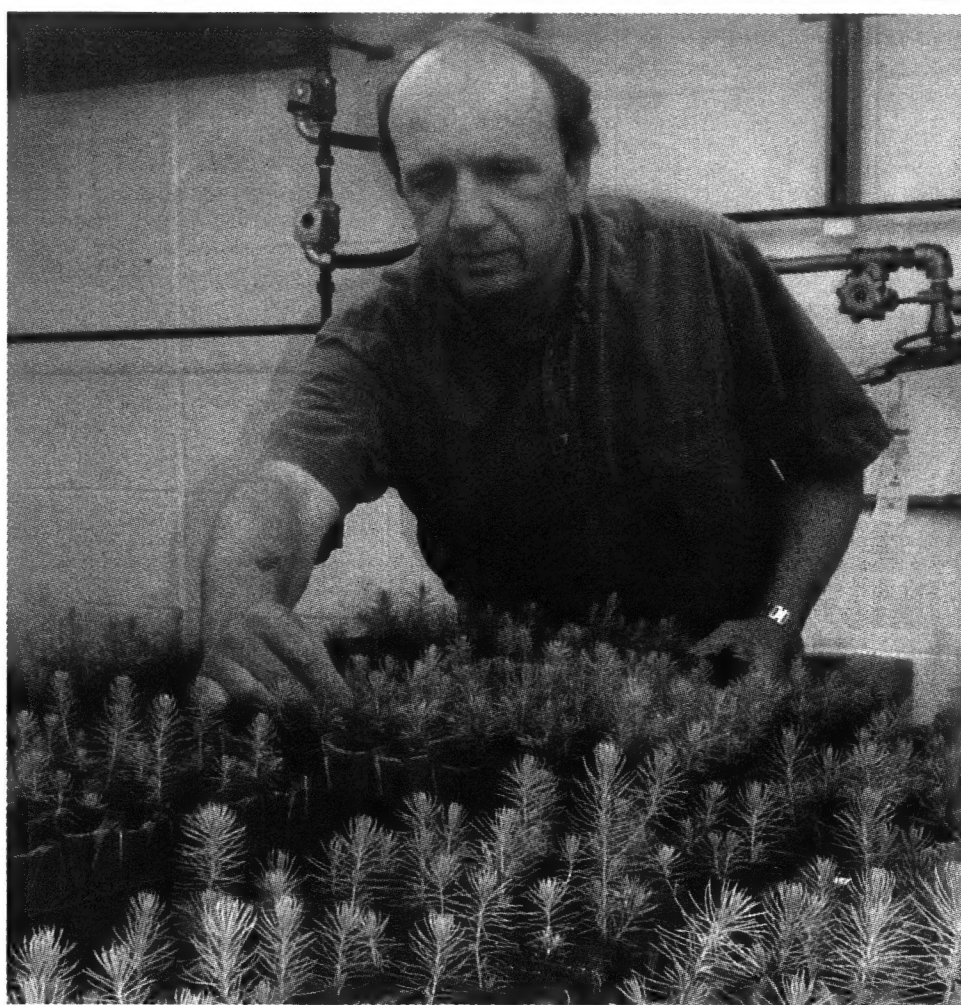
"This can help trees grow under tough environmental conditions, by getting them more water."

In what appears to be a mutually beneficial partnership, the underground fungi attach to the roots of the tree and draw carbohydrates for their own survival.

In recent years, salt contamination has become a more prevalent problem for Edmonton's trees, since more salt is being used to combat icy city roads in the winter time. This is because Edmonton's winters have been warmer than normal, and at warmer temperatures, salt is more effective than gravel or sand as a de-icing agent.

The mineral also aggravates drought problems for trees, so that the trees which could otherwise survive dry conditions die because of the salt they absorb. Over the last three years, the number of trees killed by drought and salt combined has risen from 600 to 800 per year, to 5,000 to 6,000.

Salt as a byproduct of oilsands mining also poses a challenge for companies like Syncrude when trying to reintroduce forest ecosystems, Zwiazek said. Field trials with fungi and more than 1,000 seedlings planted in the Fort McMurray area began in 2004.



Dr. Janusz Zwiazek's research shows that a fungal treatment could help trees resist salt damage from city streets

While there are still other factors such as soil compaction that need to be explored, mycorrhizal fungi are showing themselves as a likely tool for helping preserve trees, he added.

"We hope to see happier trees growing along the streets in the city, and we hope to help restore a successful forest ecosystems following industrial activity without worrying about possible effects of salt."

folio

Volume 43 Number 1

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
(EXTERNAL RELATIONS)
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS,
6TH FLOOR GENERAL SERVICES BUILDING
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EDMONTON, ALBERTA T6G 2H1

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Folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the University community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate.

Folio is published 20 times per year.

The editor reserves the right to limit, select, edit and position submitted copy and advertisements. Views expressed in Folio do not necessarily reflect University policy. Folio contents may be printed with acknowledgement.

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Wolf population critical to ecological balance, says study

Decline of Banff's grey wolves has wide-ranging impacts on ecosystem

By Caitlin Crawshaw

As a top predator, wolves are a critical part of ecosystems and their absence can severely upset the natural balance, a new study shows.

Mark Hebblewhite, a University of Alberta PhD candidate, co-authored the paper which recently appeared in the journal *Ecology*. The large-scale study of wolves and elk near the town of Banff, Alberta, is one of the first to indicate the strong role played by a top predator.

"The story starts about 30 years ago when wolves were extirpated from Banff National Park," said Hebblewhite, lead author of the paper. "They were just hunted and killed out of the park as part of park policy. So in their absence, elk numbers increased and spread throughout the Bow Valley."

Elk – the main prey of grey wolves – started moving into the town of Banff in droves in the 1990s, because the wolves had left the surrounding areas. This became a problem, said Hebblewhite, because several hundred 250-lb elk in town posed a safety risk to tourists and residents, whose front yards had become inhabited by the animals.

Wolves had begun to repopulate the Bow Valley area in the 1980s, said Hebblewhite, but because of their intense fear of humans, they stayed away from Banff and the human dwellings surrounding the town, and the elk stayed put.

Parks Canada assembled a team of researchers to determine the ecological consequences of this occurrence and to find a solution to the elk problem. The group included Hebblewhite – then a masters student – and his U of A colleagues Clifford Nietvelt and Suzanne Bayley, Parks Canada scientists and researchers from other Canadian universities.

"The story that emerged was that not only did the human avoidance of wolves affect elk, the buildup of elk numbers around Banff had dramatic consequences on the rest of the ecosystem," said Hebblewhite.

These consequences included an abundance of elk, a decline of the deciduous trees elk eat, a decline of beavers due to the decline of willow and aspen and a decline in song birds. According to Hebblewhite, these consequences indicate that changes in the wolf population has trickle-down effects on other populations – a phenom-

enon known as trophic cascade.

"The cascade refers to the kind of domino effect or waterfall-like effect where the absence of the top predator – in this case wolves – ripples and trickles down through the whole ecosystem," he said. "So, in essence, without wolves we're left with basically a beige ecosystem – just plainer, simpler, less variation, less biodiversity."

In 1997, Parks Canada started herding the elk out of town and limiting human activities in the wildlife corridors surrounding Banff to encourage wolves to repopulate those areas.

The project has some broad implications, said Hebblewhite.

"As a society, we want to try to conserve ecosystems, but it's expensive. And we often don't know the best way to do that. We can't go out there and study every little thing, we can't very easily do a biodiversity census," he said.

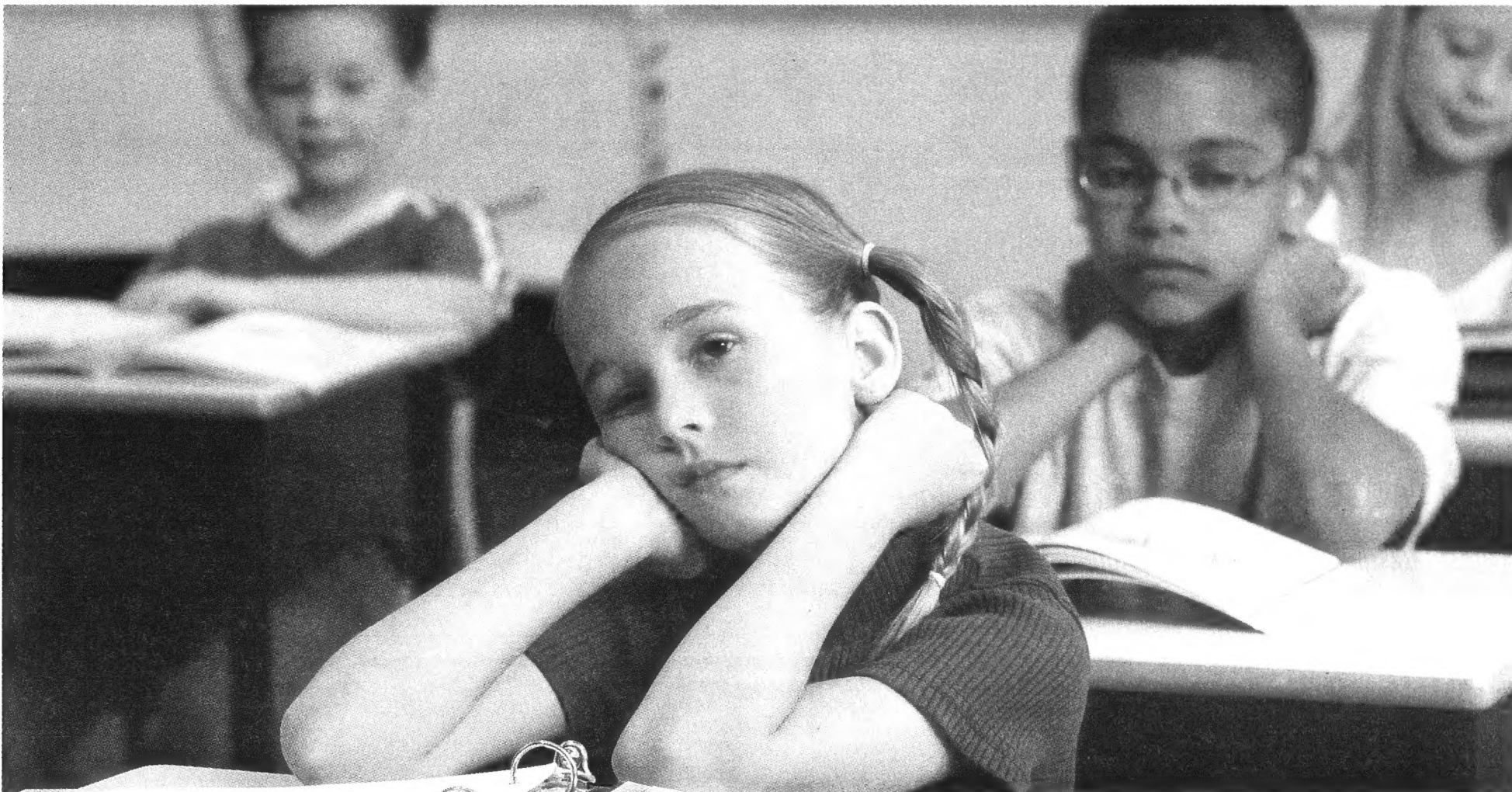
But monitoring top predators like wolves can help maintain biodiversity. Hebblewhite noted that many other communities like Jasper, Waterton and many U.S. areas are experiencing problems similar to Banff and may benefit from the research. ■

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The art of science education

It's critical to instill in children a fascination with science, say U of A researchers – our futures depend upon it

By Phoebe Dey

High school science. For some, those three words evoke hazy memories of sitting in a classroom dissecting a frog or pouring over dozens of formulas – many forgotten minutes after an exam.

Today, researchers are finding that not only is there less of a commitment to learning the sciences but that the situation is more dire than ever before. Most industrialized nations are facing a shortage of well-trained and knowledgeable people in these technological areas needed to run a well-functioning society.

The state in Canada is not as severe but it is most likely lagging behind other countries, says the University of Alberta's Dr. Stephen Norris, who heads a new national program aimed at improving science and mathematical education in primary and secondary schools.

The Centre for Research in Youth, Science, Teaching and Learning (CRYSTAL) is a \$5-million Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) initiative shared among five universities but led by Norris, from the Faculty of Education. NSERC was responding to a growing recognition that science literacy is vital to the economic and political health of our society and the need to improve the quality of science and mathematical education in our schools.

In this country, for instance, interest in these subjects peaks at around the age of 10 and declines for the remainder of schooling. But we are doing better than most, says Norris.

"In almost all other industrialized societies, most notably in western Europe, there is a decline in interest, positive attitudes and trust, and participation in science – more among girls and young women," he says. "In developing countries, especially in Africa and South America, there is a markedly different trend whereby science and mathematics remain in high regard and real career options for boys and girls alike."

So what seems to be the challenge? Researchers cannot say for sure, but one hypothesis for the trends seen in Canada, the United States and Europe is that the school curriculum in both science and

mathematics is focused too heavily on rote memorization and algorithmic computation and too lightly on reasoning and understanding, says Norris. His research team will be tackling this issue to determine if a greater focus on interpretation and critical evaluation can have the desired effects of increasing interest and improving attitudes toward science and mathematics.

Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour, chemistry professor and former vice-chair of WISEST (Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology), agrees with Norris.

"The traditional way of teaching science—memorizing a huge amount of information and using it in a very linear way—is very attractive to a small number of students who like to learn in the way and who will become scientists, no matter how we teach science," says Norris, who is part of the CRYSTAL team. "However, it is not attractive to the majority."

Armour, now the associate dean of diversity in the Faculty of Science, says when researchers looked at ways to change teaching to interest more girls in science, they found that when the content is shown to be relevant to the lives of students and there are many opportunities for hands-on experiments, it was more likely that girls would continue in science.

"When learning became participatory and collaborative more of the students continue to be engaged," she says. "However, when science is taught this way, it is not only the girls that become more interested, but also more of the boys – it becomes student friendly."

"Having students write and talk about scientific concepts and about how science relates to health and environmental issues, for example, helps them to realize that there is more to science than working problems."

Ciera Darragh learned that first hand this summer. The Drayton Valley student took part in this year's Heritage Youth Researcher Summer Program (HYRS) and spent six weeks in Dr. Chris Sturdy's lab, investigating the neural pathways of the brain involved in songbird recognition. She became immersed in the project, extract-

ing brains, measuring beaks and recording chickadee calls—the kind of work most budding scientists would love. But what sets her apart from other students who quickly veer away from physics and chemistry the first chance they have? Darragh has done what educators believe will keep students hooked—she sees beyond the formulas and the memorization.

"Unlike some other high school courses, you don't have to stop and think, 'now how can this be applied to everyday life?' For example, the sciences deal with your body, its makeup, functions, and how you and the world around you move and exist. It is always being applied."

Darragh acknowledges that regurgitating formulas and facts—and she sees many students doing this—is the easiest way to pass a class but it does nothing for retaining any knowledge in the long run.

"At the high school level, it is a personal choice of how you want to approach learning, but it is much easier if you can find an application and make a conscious effort to understand and appreciate the science," says Darragh, who notes her group of science-loving friends is a small percentage in the school. "Those who choose to memorize and regurgitate are taking the easy – but far less beneficial – way out."

Darragh's own teacher agrees that fewer students are now committing to the more rigorous sciences. "The ones who do are the very motivated ones and you will never have problems with them anyway," says Harrison, who just retired from Frank Maddock High School in Drayton Valley after teaching science for 35 years.

She says her high school sends many bright minds to study science and math at university but many drop out after their first year. "Some place in between there is a problem," she says.

Harrison focused teaching a topic's direct application and implemented 15 to 20 labs in any semester, which, she says, was considered extreme. She also made her students design their own labs, prompting positive feedback not only from the pupils but their parents as well. "I would have parents tell me they learned more about

how a battery works from their child's lab project than anything else," says Harrison. "But part of the problem is using non-specialists to teach these courses, which tends to mean they don't have familiarity with them and perhaps cannot be as creative."

Other local schools are not witnessing a crisis but still recognize the importance of looking ahead. Harry Ainlay High school principal Mark Liguori says he does not worry about the interest level in his school, however, he jumped at the chance to be part of CRYSTAL.

"Our school has a significant number of students enrolled in science and participation rates are phenomenal but I still thought it was a great opportunity to be involved in such a project," said Liguori. "Our high school might be unique but there is a definite interest in science and math here."

Norris' long-term goals are to hear similar refrains from schools across the globe, considering the broader societal effect. There are several implications if jobs in math and science are not filled and if a public is not well enough versed in science and math to be able to contribute to the increasing number of complex social issues involving this specific knowledge.

"There are economic, health and cultural implications, to name just three," says Norris. "The first two are widely recognized. We need scientists and mathematicians for industry, for research and development, and for technical fields. If we have insufficient numbers of them, then our prosperity will suffer, including our health and livelihoods."

The third reason is less widely recognized. Science and mathematics are cultural achievements of great significance, beauty, and power, says Norris.

"Science and mathematics help us to see our place in the universe, and, indeed, help us to grasp the universe in which we live. Mathematics, some would see, allow us to see the power and beauty of pure thought and logic. Simply knowing these things enhances the quality and worth of our lives. We should not want to lose science and mathematics, any more than we would want to lose music or art." ■

Portrait of the filmmaker

For U of A employee, the craft of filmmaking is worth a few lost Z's

By Lee Craig

There's a real sense of community on a movie set, a real closeness between people, and the trust and connection is so rich.

— Peter Dranchuk

As an adolescent, Peter Dranchuk hoped to one day compose music for film, but a bizarre encounter set him on quite a different course.

After a lecture delivered by a respected composer at the Provincial Museum, Dranchuk approached the man for advice and inspiration. But he was unprepared for the unintuitive response he received.

"He basically chewed me out, saying 'Why would you do that? Why don't you become a producer or director—at least you would get something done. At least people would listen to you,'" said Dranchuk.

He remembers, at the tender age of 14, being stunned.

"It was preposterous. The composer continued with 'My god, man, why would you waste your time being a music composer?' I remember I got kind of teary eyed, and he stormed off and the other people who were waiting to speak to him were glaring at me, so I wandered off."

Despite the manner of the advice, Dranchuk began to read everything about filmmaking he could get his hands on. One book in particular told the young man that he had to learn various sets of skills to one day become a director and producer.

"I spent every minute of my life since then trying to build experiences that would make me a better filmmaker," he said.

Dranchuk, who has worked at the campus Microstore for over five years, now produces, directs and writes short movies in addition to being a teacher and mentor of film students at Film And Video Arts (FAVA), the local film co-op.

He got his start after graduating from the U of A with a major in both psychology and economics and a minor in music, Dranchuk eventually travelled to Koshi, Japan with the Japan Exchange and Teaching program where he worked on his writing and photography, when not teaching English. Once he returned to Edmonton, he worked on several films in various capacities—photographer, boom operator and other crew jobs—in addition to jobs in marketing.

His first film, which was made in 1999, is a story about a guy driving across Japan.



University of Alberta Microstore employee Peter Dranchuk could be the best multi-tasker on campus. The filmmaker spends anywhere between 10 - 40 hours per week creating films on top of his job at the Microstore.

With Dranchuk as the writer, the director and one of the actors, *Garden of Tokyo* is a six-and-a-half-minute digital video and was produced with the Edmonton Railway Society and the Japanese embassy.

The project was quite a challenge, Dranchuk explained, but he loved doing it.

"Projects can always be more difficult than you expect—you always realize you have more to learn," he said. "However there's a real sense of community on a movie set, a real closeness between people, and the trust and connection is so rich."

One of Dranchuk's recent project was a promotional video, titled *How to Make a Movie in Five Days*, which he directed for the student-oriented Dare to Discover Movie Festival 2005. The festival, which takes place this month on campus, is the first short film competition at the uni-

versity and is being sponsored by the University of Alberta Bookstore.

His current project with the Cross Cancer Institute is about people who have cancer and the different ways they cope with it. *Angels Not Car Accidents: Living in the Light of Cancer* is in pre-production and is being made for cable and network television.

Dranchuk said that one of the couples he spoke with for the film astonished him with their acceptance and what he calls a "state of grace" in dealing with the husband's disease. It's one of the things he loves about making films—the many types of people he meets and the amazing range of topics he learns about.

One of the things Dranchuk might not love, but accepts, about making films, is a lack of sleep. Sometimes he can spend any-

where from 10 to 40 hours per week working on films, in addition to working at the Microstore. He recalls his first time working as a sound recordist, grip and assistant for the feature film *Mirror* in 1999, and the tremendous effort it took to endure the sleep deprivation.

"It was my first big experience working on a big film set. You work 15 to 16 hours a day and have 3 or 4 hours of sleep," he said.

In the last two years, he has directed approximately 100 "fast" films. These are 5- to 10-minute DVD dramatic videos with no lighting and no editing, each made in about three hours.

"That's an incredibly fast, abbreviated timeline. Most things that you would see, for example, a commercial for T.V. would take a month of work." ■

Future teacher wins undergraduate award

Tracy Bear-Coon is the first recipient of the Eric Newell Dean's Undergraduate Citation in Native Studies

By Beverly Betkowski

It was not an easy decision for Tracy Bear-Coon and her husband to leave their jobs in British Columbia and move their family of three children to Alberta so that she could pursue a university education.

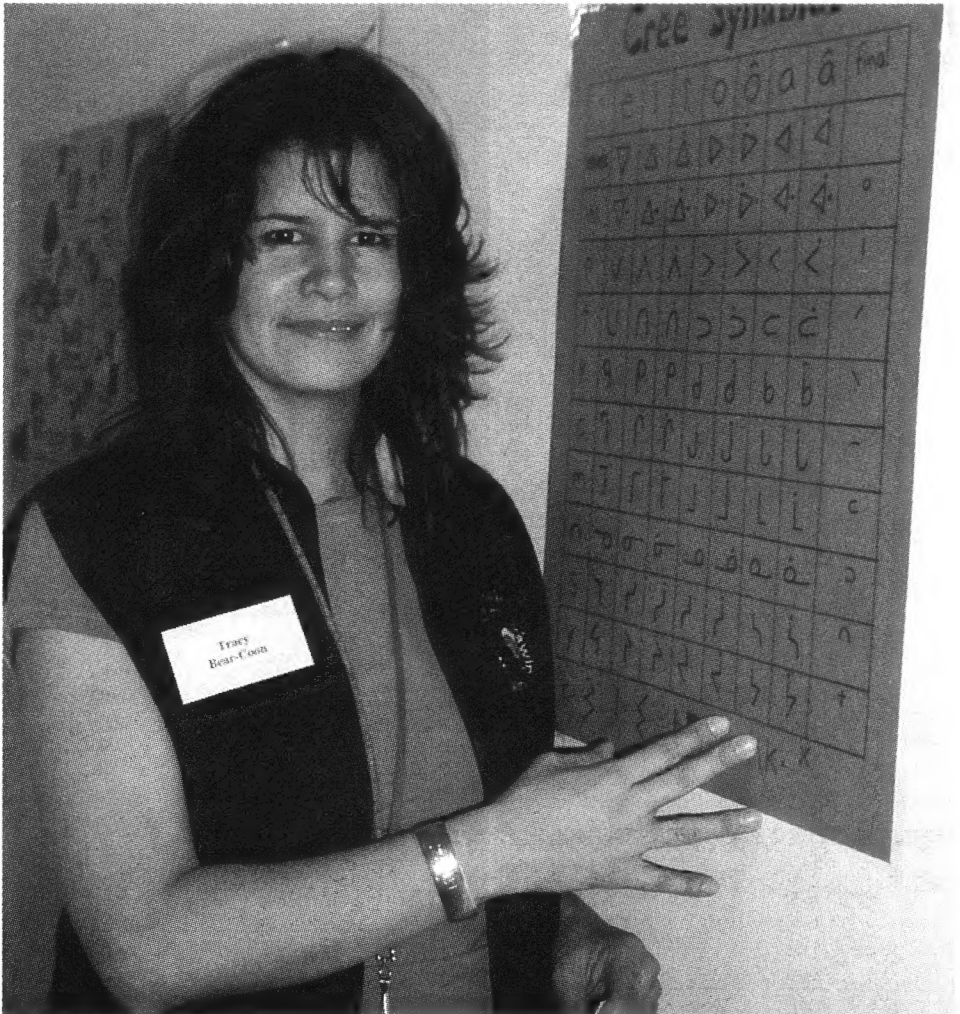
But Bear-Coon has no regrets. The energetic 36-year-old entered the University of Alberta's education program three years ago and, along with juggling her family responsibilities and studies, also took on the burden of being a mature student. Today, she is starting her fourth year of a BA in Native and Studies and a bachelor's degree in education, heads an exciting Cree-language team project at the university's School of Native Studies and, this fall, becomes the first-ever recipient of the Eric Newell Dean's Undergraduate Citation in Native Studies.

The \$10,000 award, endowed by U of A Chancellor Eric Newell, is spread over four years of study and requires a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a full normal course load. Bear-Coon admits to being a bit startled at how far she has come since enrolling in her first classes.

"To get this citation is almost surreal. I could never have imagined this is where I could be." Bear-Coon is one of more than 400 scholarship winners and award-winning teachers who will be honoured Sept. 9 at the University of Alberta's 10th annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning (CTL).

"A university, perhaps above all things, offers individuals the opportunity to discover their true potential and learn how they can contribute to the whole community. The University of Alberta takes enormous pride in its part in helping Ms. Bear-Coon discover and grow her talent to serve the whole community," said Dr. Indira Samarasekera, President of the University of Alberta.

Bear-Coon, who is from the Montreal Lake Cree Nation in Saskatchewan, was enjoying her work as a Native education coordinator for a school district in Golden, B.C. "That's when I first learned I really



Tracy Bear-Coon

loved teaching." But as enrolment in the Native education outreach program grew at the same time government cutbacks to classroom funding took hold, teacher aides took on more duties, and Bear-Coon began to notice a gap in reaching Aboriginal children. "The teacher aides were unable to do the job. Our job was to relate to the Aboriginal parents and have an understanding of their fears and frustrations of the public school system."

Recognizing the need for Aboriginal teachers, Bear-Coon wanted to be in a position to help youngsters increase their chances of successful school careers, and decided the best way to do that was to become a teacher herself. But she knows she's gained much more than the degree she plans to obtain.

"I wanted to go to school to get the letters behind my name. But coming to university is so much more." While she

considered herself a risk-taker before pulling up stakes and moving to Alberta, the opportunity for learning she's had at the U of A has shaped her into even more of a go-getter. "You have to take that leap of faith. Otherwise you don't grow."

And while she still plans to teach at some point, she may take the long way around to the classroom after she graduates from the U of A. Bear-Coon is now pondering a career in academia studying comparative languages. Her respect for the Cree language especially is evident through her involvement in the Cree Language Education in Alberta project.

Funded by a \$25,000 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Bear-Coon and her fellow students in the School of Native Studies are exploring ways to preserve and retain the Cree language for future generations of Aboriginals living in Canada's prairie provinces.

As part of that research, Bear-Coon traveled to the University of Otago in New Zealand this summer to study the Maori language. As with Canada's Cree language, colonization took a toll on its survival. Bear-Coon was overwhelmed by what she learned while there. "I was struck by the driven desire the Maori have for their language to survive. Like Cree elders, Maori elders are intent on seeing their grandchildren speak Maori and volunteer large amounts of time to see it happen."

As well, she said, New Zealand has a language commission which lists Maori as one of the country's official languages. "Now that's progress."

Bear-Coon encourages Aboriginal people — and everyone else — to hold fast to their desire for lifelong learning. "It's never too late to go to university." Her own aunt, at age 64, is legally blind, but still earned an arts degree, Bear-Coon noted. "When you're ready, you're ready." ■

Athletic Killam winner gifted in the classroom too

Maria Gallo is an accomplished athlete and a successful PhD student in biochemistry

By Beverly Betkowski

Who better to research performance supplements than an athlete—especially one who's been involved in two national team sports, and has her eye on the 2006 Winter Olympics?

Maria Gallo, a PhD student in biochemistry at the University of Alberta, not only has her eye on the 2006 national Olympic bobsled team but, through her research, has also discovered good news for athletes using creatine, a natural supplement used by athletes to help build muscle mass and increase recovery from exercise.

In honour of her work, Gallo is one of several distinguished students receiving an Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship at the U of A's 10th annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning. She is thrilled to be receiving the scholarship, worth \$24,000.

"What shines through about Ms. Gallo, even beyond her ability, is her passion," said Dr. Indira Samarasekera, president of the University of Alberta. "When the university can contribute to this kind of passion in individuals, the result can only be good for the whole community."

Teaching and learning are both important to Gallo, who is as gifted in the classroom and research lab as she is on the playing field. "All of my experiences at the University of Alberta have been very positive. However, teaching undergraduates has proven to be the most memorable and also challenging. I consider teaching to be an important component in a graduate student's life. Everyone should have the opportunity to lead a small group in the learning process," Gallo said.

Gallo, who is researching muscle physi-



Maria Gallo is a jack-of-all-trades who has mastered them all.

ology, has a natural interest in creatine - she took it herself while training for the 2002 World Cup rugby tournament in Spain, where she competed for Canada. (She also plans to compete in next year's

World Cup here in Edmonton). "I took it for two months and basically had positive side effects. I felt a lot more powerful and did not lose any speed or agility."

Her research, using a rat model and

activity wheels, investigated the effects of long-term creatine feeding on the strength and speed properties of skeletal muscles. Gallo discovered that creatine increased the maximal strength of select hind limb muscles, and also improved fatigue resistance in the loaded muscles.

Her research was able to show that similar intramuscular creatine levels are obtained after 13 weeks of loading as shorter term feeding periods (i.e. eight weeks). This may imply that regardless of higher and longer dosages, the effects are similar.

"It suggests you may not have to take creatine for as long as we thought initially, and you don't have to take as much of it."

Gallo was on the national bobsled team in 2002, and is also well-known for her powerhouse performances for the University of Alberta Panda rugby team, as well as a berth on Canada's women's team for five years.

Her latest passion, bobsledding, is a natural fit with rugby. "Both are power sports, and when I'm training for one, I'm training for the other. Gallo hasn't been involved in bobsled for the past two winters because of a shoulder injury which she sustained playing rugby for the Pandas, and also because of her duties as a teacher's aide.

Much as she enjoyed that experience in the classroom, Gallo is pleased at the freedom the Killam scholarship provides. She will be spending her time conducting experiments in the lab so that she can complete her thesis. She's also back in training for selection camps this fall and hopes to be back on the national team when training begins in November. ■

Arts student nets \$10,000 scholarship

Aspiring novelist Amanda Perry is pursuing an honour's degree in English at the U of A

By Beverly Betkowski

In Grade 2, Amanda Perry ploughed her way through *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*, Jules Verne's science fiction classic. "I was seven years old and I barely understood a word of it," she chuckles now. "A barometer—what's that?"

But it hardly mattered to the little book-worm. She read anything she could lay her hands on. "I would try to find the biggest books in the school library."

Now 17, Perry has won the Scotiabank Dean's Entrance Citation in Arts, a \$10,000 scholarship over four years. It will come in handy as she enters the University of Alberta's Faculty of Arts this fall to pursue an honours degree in English.

Perry is one of more than 400 scholarship winners and award-winning teachers who will be honoured Sept. 9, 2005 at the University of Alberta's 10th annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning (CTL). To win the Scotiabank award, she had to maintain a minimum average of 90 per cent in Grades 10, 11 and 12.

"Amanda Perry has the kind of energy that truly makes our university hum," said Dr. Indira Samarasekera, president of the University of Alberta. "Our job is to do whatever we can to guide and encourage her in her obvious pursuit of excellence."

Even without the classes Perry looks forward to this year, her love affair with the wonder of the written word is already in full swing. The busy teen has written several articles for NextGen, the youth section of *The Edmonton Journal*, won several student scholarships and won bursaries to summer writing camps. To top it off, her final mark in English 30 was an astounding 100 per cent. After earning her under-

It challenges me to think in different ways.

I like books for their plots, but there's also another intellectual level.

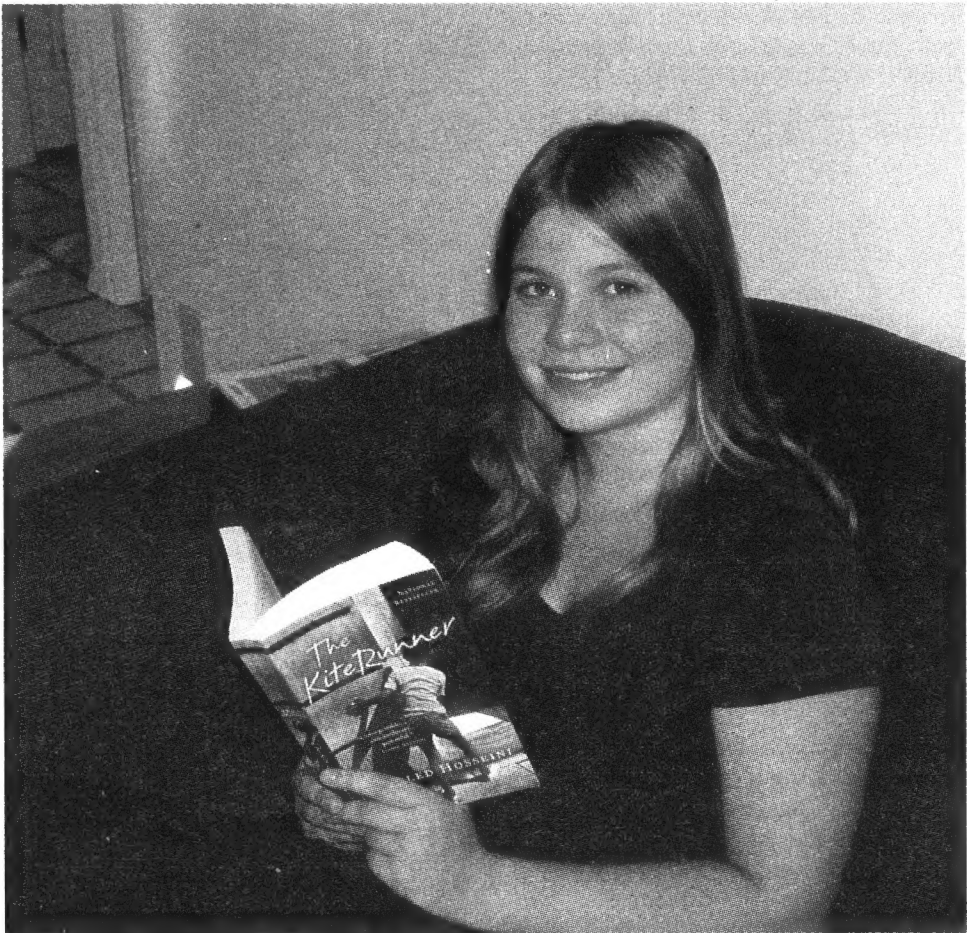
— Amanda Perry

graduate degree, Perry plans to attain her master's and possibly a PhD. Her career plans are no surprise, then: she wants to write, teach as a professor or work "somewhere within the publishing field."

With such high marks (she finished Grade 12 at McNally Senior High School with the highest International Baccalaureate diploma score in the school), Perry could have her choice of faculties, and people often ask her why she doesn't study medicine or science instead.

"With literature you're not looking so much at the really obvious tangible contributions from other fields, but at a cultural growth and a way to look at something, some idea, that could be quite ordinary and interpret it in different ways. It's made me more open-minded." Entering university allows her the luxury of focusing almost exclusively on her passion. "I finally get to narrow it down to what I want to do."

Literature is an exercise in discovery for Perry. "It challenges me to think in different ways. I like books for their plots, but there's also another intellectual level." She hopes one day to be able to write in the manner of Margaret Atwood, one of the authors she most admires. "The way she writes sometimes is so poetic, it almost



First-year arts student Amanda Perry has always loved books

doesn't seem like prose."

When she's not reading, penning short stories and poetry for her own pleasure, Perry volunteers as a Girl Guide junior leader, takes Tae Kwon Do classes and

perhaps most importantly, spends an hour a week coaching a five-year-old child on his reading skills. "It's important to pass it on. I've been reading for so long, and it has enriched my life." ■

U of A education means the world to Finnish student

Melissa Holm is this year's winner of the Entrance Citation for International Students

By Beverly Betkowski

Melissa Holm is so excited about starting school at the University of Alberta, she can't sit still long enough to shake off the head cold she brought with her from Finland.

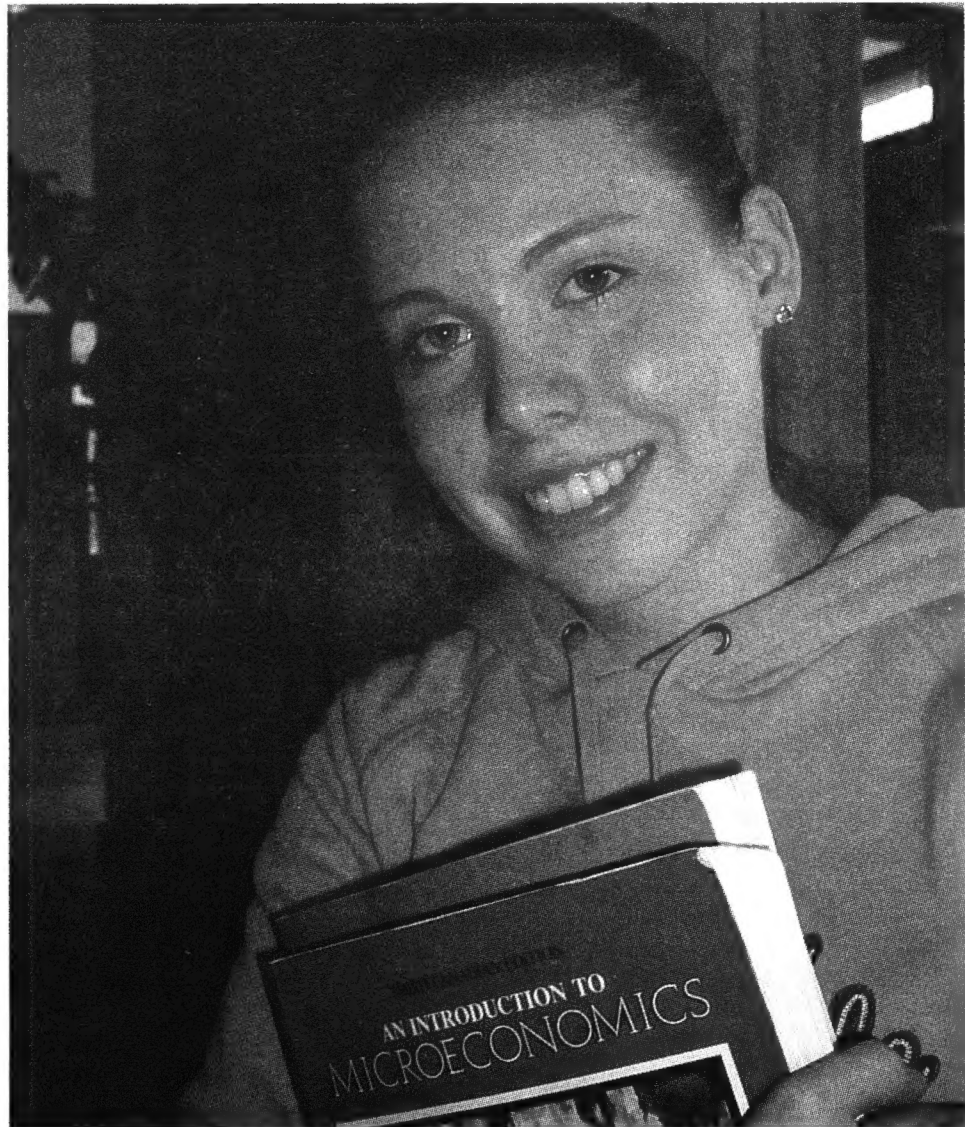
With a slight case of the sniffles, the 19-year-old Helsinki native has been exploring every corner of campus since arriving last week after almost 24 hours on an airplane. "I leave my apartment in the morning and don't come back until 10 p.m. I am so excited about coming here, I can't wait for classes to start."

Enrolled in the Faculty of Arts, the soft-spoken Holm is a newly graduated International Baccalaureate student from a high school in Helsinki, and is deeply grateful for the opportunity of studying at the University of Alberta. Holm said she wouldn't be here if not for the Entrance Citation for International Students she is receiving. "My parents could not have done this for me."

Holm is one of more than 400 scholarship winners and award-winning teachers honoured today at the 10th annual U of A Celebration of Teaching and Learning.

International students such as Holm are welcome additions to campus, said Dr. Indira Samarasekera, President of the University of Alberta. "Students like Melissa who come to the University of Alberta from around the world contribute much to the dynamic learning environment on campus. They have faith in the excellent quality of post-secondary education they will receive here, and we are proud to help these students achieve their goals for bettering their own communities as well as the global community."

Holm has kept her marks high since forming her first career plans at age nine—to be a lawyer. But after moving to



International student Melissa Holm chose the University of Alberta over schools in Australia, France, England and the United States.

the multicultural country of Luxembourg with her parents and two sisters at age 12, she changed her mind and decided

a business degree would give her more options around the world. Charmed by the mix of Portugese, French, Scandinavian

and Belgian cultures she encountered in Luxembourg, she decided her career should have an international flavor. "It widens my perspective."

She hopes to combine her budding interest in sociology and psychology with a career in business management, as she feels a strong desire to help people on a human level. That is reflected in past volunteer work she did in Helsinki for UNICEF, selling Christmas cards and arranging children's concerts to raise money for needy youngsters. One of the classes she most looks forward to during her first term at the U of A is economics. "It impacts everything, the world."

Hungering for a taste of what the globe has to offer, it was natural that Holm wanted to study outside her own country, but she had many choices before settling on the University of Alberta. She explored post-secondary opportunities in Australia, France, England and the United States before meeting a young man who told her about the U of A. "He told me to check out the U of A web page, and said it was a good school for business." The top-drawer student even had her sights set on Harvard for a time, but after experiencing the sometimes pretentious attitudes at her high-end high school, Holm decided she wanted something different for herself.

"The most prestigious schools are not necessarily the best ones. I realized there are other schools that are just as good, but down to earth."

While eagerly waiting for classes to start this week, Holm, an accomplished musician and singer, was exploring her options for joining a U of A choir or musical club, and enjoying the warm welcome she has received on campus. "Everybody has helped me a lot. I think I made the right choice in coming here." ■

City pledges \$12.5 million for downtown TEC Centre

New U of A campus to open in 2006

By Sandra Halme

Edmonton City Council today voted unanimously in support of a partnership with the University of Alberta on a proposal to establish a downtown campus for Technology, Entrepreneur and Company (TEC) Development focused on the commercialization of research.

Through the partnership, the City of Edmonton will invest \$12.5 million: \$7.5 million to support the TEC Centre downtown campus in the former Hudson's Bay Building, a heritage building that has languished in the city centre for the past 10 years; and \$5 million for TEC Edmonton, an organization supporting the creation, development and retention of spin off businesses in Edmonton. The University of Alberta's total investment will exceed \$30 million.

"In 10 years, I am confident that we will look back and see this announcement as pivotal to the diversification and sustainable economic development of Edmonton and Northern Alberta," says Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel. "Moreover, I believe this effort will be a catalyst to the revitalization of our downtown core."

University of Alberta president Indira Samarasekera says the partnership signals a new era of cooperation. "The city and university have always been the key to each other's success," she says. "This gives life to our partnership while enhancing our city's well-being and the university's vibrancy as a leading centre of learning and research."

The city and university have always

been the key to each other's success

This gives life to our partnership while

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university's vibrancy as a leading centre

of learning and research.

— U of A President Indira Samarasekera

According to Mandel, this partnership advances both Edmonton's vision as a strong, progressive and culturally rich capital city and the University of Alberta's reputation as a successful research engine.

Since 1994, the year the university opened its technology transfer office, the U of A has created more than 60 new companies and generated more than \$28 million in licensing and royalty revenue.

With council approval now in place, the city and university will continue efforts to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding outlining specific governance and reporting details. With city support in place, an additional \$30 million in provincial and federal financing will be sought. With financing complete, design would be advanced with construction commencing this fall. TEC Centre would be ready for operation by late 2006.



University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera.

Creative Services

Prof recruited to help build mansion

U of A construction know-how tapped for unique project

By Ryan Smith

The design for a new 2,045-square-metre (22,000-square-foot) home in Long Island, New York is so complex and demanding that the owner has recruited experts from around the world to build it. And the need to raise 108 uniquely designed concrete panels led him to contact Dr. Mohamed Al-Hussein, a professor in the University of Alberta Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and a leading expert in the field of lift studies and crane utilization on construction sites.

"I never would have guessed that I would ever work on such an amazing project in my life," Al-Hussein said. "It has been a tremendous challenge, but when people look at this house many years from now they will marvel and wonder how it was built."

The owner, who doesn't want his name used, contacted Al-Hussein in the fall of 2004 after consulting Dr. Martin Fisher, an engineering professor at Stanford University, who recommended Al-Hussein as the man to lead the challenge of raising the 108 concrete panels, which extend up to 10.5 metres (35 feet) in length and height, and range in weight from 1,300 - 27,600 kilograms (3,000 - 61,000 lbs.).

Al-Hussein began working on the project at the beginning of 2005, when he and a few of his graduate students developed 3-D computer models to determine the best way to raise each panel.

"We soon learned that each panel has a personality of its own, and there were specific challenges involved in raising each one," Al-Hussein said.

Working from the 3-D models, Al-Hussein and his students conducted trial raisings for a few panels using cranes in Edmonton, then sent the information to New York, where the panels were lifted one by one over the period of about a month this summer. One of Al-Hussein's graduate students, Juan Manrique, lived on the construction site and oversaw the panel raisings.



Juan Manrique and Dr. Mohamed Al-Hussein

Ryan Smith

"Dr. Al-Hussein and his team have been fabulous," the owner said. "They've been indispensable, going above and beyond to ensure that their end of the construction was successful, and it definitely was a big success."

The owner believes his spare-no-expense home, which is being built on some of the most expensive residential land in the U.S., will be completed in about 18 months barring any unforeseen problems.

That the project has come this far is something of a success considering that the concept for the Steven Holl-designed home is so demanding that the owner couldn't find a contractor who would accept the challenge of building it.

"No one thought it could be done, so we decided to incorporate our own con-

struction company and build it ourselves," said the owner, who founded a leading U.S. manufacturing firm and is the patriarch of a family of six.

His new home will feature four pavilions, including a library, a garden house and a gallery. In spite of the difficulty in working with concrete, the owner never thought of compromising and using a lighter, more flexible material.

"It would change the esthetic and the architect's vision, and we didn't want to do that," he said.

And in spite of all the challenges, the owner said he is "having the time of his life" and his work with Al-Hussein has been "a great example of co-operation between academics and industry."

"Obviously we've benefited from [Al-

Hussein and his graduate students'] expertise, and they've benefited from the novel research and field work that they've been able to do."

As a result of the collaboration, Manrique has two standing offers for future employment, and Al-Hussein will present a paper at an international conference later this year.

"I'll also be able to write at least three academic papers from this project," Al-Hussein added. "[This project] has really been incredible. I'm very glad and gratified that I accepted the challenge, and I can't wait to see the final product." ■

Successful researcher awarded for teaching excellence

For Killam professor teaching is a “dream job”

By Phoebe Dey

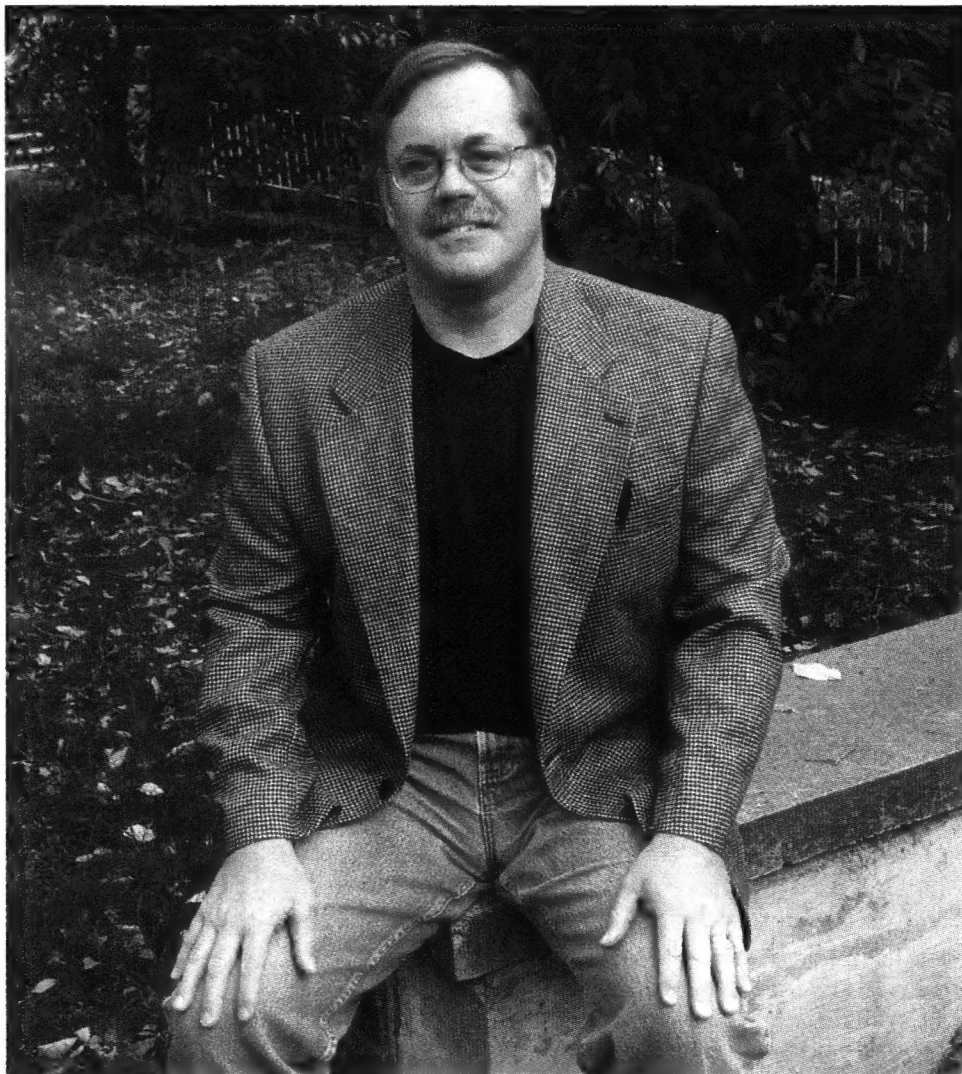
To say Dr. Peter Boxall’s research interests are diverse would be somewhat of an understatement. From fair trade coffee on campus to female hunters in Alberta, the Killam professor will tackle it—using his novel research methods along the way.

Boxall, a professor of environmental and resource economics in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Home Economics, initially started his career as a biologist working for the provincial government. But he became frustrated with the fact that people seemed to be an afterthought in wildlife management and that there was no “formal” expertise in the human dimensions of fish and wildlife in the agency. He soon found himself in a group with resource economists.

“Once I found out how economics could become a part of resource management, it became exciting,” he says. “I found what I was doing to be more useful than counting ticks on moose, for instance.”

When Boxall returned to university for his second master’s degree and later his Ph.D. in agricultural economics, he worked under the U of A’s Dr. Vic Adamowicz, one of the world’s top environmental and resource economists. Today, they work side-by-side and are the leading—if not the only—people in Canada with expertise in this area. The pair uses state-of-the-art quantitative methods and novel data collection means to determine the cost associated with making environmental improvements or degradations—figures which are normally considered difficult to interpret. This approach has led Boxall to numerous invitations by researchers around the world to share his work.

He has also been called upon frequently to provide technical advice to federal and provincial governments, as well as industry and non-governmental organizations. His counsel has ranged from the environmental and health impacts of climate change to the recreation values of Ontario parks. The breadth of his committee work is also staggering and has varied



Dr. Peter Boxall engages students in course material with classroom experiments

in scope from the review of senior citizen’s angling licenses to sustainable forest management.

Boxall has received grants to study the consumer demand for eggs, the relationship between air quality and forest fires and to learn what people are willing to pay for a marine protected area in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, to name a few. He is an editor of the Canadian Journal of Agricultural

Economics and is a referee for more than 25 journals.

But despite his prolific publication record (he has authored more than 100 articles, reports, book chapters and conference presentations) and demands away from the university, Boxall says one of the things he is most proud of is being a professor.

“It’s a dream job,” says Boxall, who also received the McCalla Research

Professorship.

“I love teaching. The class is full of people who want to save the environment and I’m helping opening their minds to issues—I find that inspiring,” he says. “A lot of them remind me of me as an undergraduate.”

Boxall tries to ensure his classroom experiments—including what people would be willing to pay for fair trade coffee or the value of hiking in Kananaskis—make it easy for students to draw on real life experiences.

That enthusiasm has paid off. Boxall has been recognized as the “professor of the year” (selected by the Environmental and Conservation Sciences undergraduate students) and his faculty’s “teacher of the year” three separate times. He encourages his students to submit papers to international undergraduate competitions and had one student place first and another second in the prestigious American Agricultural Economics Association Undergraduate Paper competition. Four of the eight master’s theses he has supervised have also been nominated for national awards.

Dr. Ellen Goddard, chair of the Department of Rural Economy, said she has great appreciation for the contribution Boxall makes on all aspects of university activity as well as his work’s relevance to the wider community.

“In many ways, Peter has become one of our most innovative teachers. He creates high quality opportunities for innovative learning, through the independent research project opportunities he develops for his students,” she said.

“He is a committed and rigorous teacher—one of our best.”

And for Boxall, receiving the Killam Annual Professorship is a welcomed honour.

“What makes this an interesting and prestigious award is it doesn’t represent just one aspect of your research portfolio,” he said. “It means a lot to be recognized for so many different aspects of your work.” ■

Researchers find first evidence of venom system in extinct mammal

By Ryan Smith

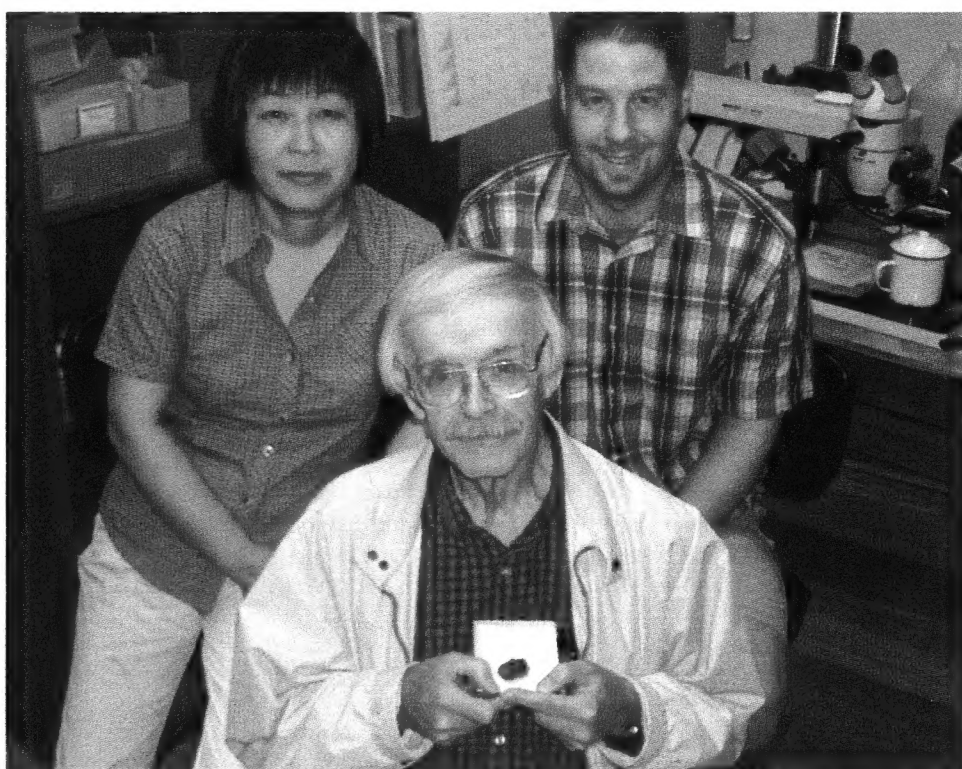
A tiny fossil found more than 10 years ago in central Alberta has proven to be the key to answering a long unsolved evolutionary question, say researchers from the University of Alberta.

Back in 1991, Dr. Richard Fox and his research team found a 60 million-year-old incomplete skull fossil that they now believe is the first evidence of an extinct mammal with a venom delivery apparatus. The research is published today in *Nature* magazine.

“Our discovery shows that mammals have been much more flexible in the evolution of venom-delivery systems than previously believed,” said Fox, who works out of the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology in the U of A Department of Biological Sciences.

About the size of a mouse, the ancient mammal - *Bisonalveus browni* - may have resembled a small hedgehog or a small mole, but it isn’t related to any animal that currently exists, said Craig Scott, a PhD student at the U of A and co-author of the paper.

Currently, there are three types of living mammals with salivary venom-injecting capabilities: the Caribbean *Solenodon* (found primarily in Cuba), the North American short-tailed shrew, and the Eurasian water shrew. The Australian duck-billed platypus also has venom-inject-



Yong Qin Sun, Dr. Richard Fox and Craig Scott.

ing capability through a spur on its heel.

The fossil that Fox’s research team found expressed a deep groove in the upper canines, and, Fox noted, the groove resembled the grooved poison fangs found in some kinds of modern venom-

ous snakes. He added that the fact that the walls of the groove are covered with enamel indicates the groove is not a product of post-mortem exposure and splitting but rather is the natural design of the tooth.

“The groove in these teeth would have

acted as a gutter, conducting fluid from its source in glandular tissues in the upper jaw down the height of the crown to its tip,” Fox explained.

“When I first saw [the groove] I thought maybe it was a cavity,” said Yong-Qin Sun, the lab technician who prepared the fossil, which is one of thousands that the U of A researchers have collected over the years from the banks of the Blind Man River near Red Deer, Alberta.

Sun immediately took the fossil to Scott, who thought it was the first proof of a venomous capacity in an extinct mammal, but Scott took it to Fox to confirm his notion.

Fox and Scott had found individual canine fossils with similar grooves, but they didn’t know which species of animal the loose fossils came from. The *Bisonalveus browni* fossil was the first time they had seen teeth like this preserved within an intact upper and lower jaw, which is extremely rare for a specimen this old.

“This just shows you that no matter how long you’ve been working on something, you can still learn a lot just by uncovering one little piece of information,” Fox added. “And we’re fortunate that we are able to work where we do; central Alberta is one of the richest areas of the world to uncover the types of fossils that we’re interested in.” ■

Researchers make advances in wind energy generation

Small scale generators convert light winds into electricity

By Ryan Smith

Engineers at the University of Alberta have created a wind energy generator that they hope people will one day use to power their own homes.

"We have developed a simple, reliable, controller for small scale wind energy generators that is cheaper than competing technologies," said Dr. Andy Knight, a professor in the U of A Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and lead author of a paper on the subject published recently in IEEE Transactions on Energy Conversion.

The traditional problem with harnessing wind energy has been the high cost and the low return of energy, especially for small-scale generators, Knight explained. A

particular problem is that the devices have been unable to convert any energy when winds fall below specific cut off speeds, and much energy is therefore wasted.

However, Knight's open loop control system can be built with a few, simple electronic components that are cheap and easy to find, use and repair. As well, Knight's system is able to transfer even light winds into electric energy.

Although Knight and his colleagues have not yet built anything that is ready to sell, they have designed and tested a generator that they are working to improve before they expect to apply for a patent and possibly bring it to market.

Current small-scale wind energy gener-

ators cost about \$2,400 US and, on an average wind speed day, produce 5.2 kiloWatt-Hours per day, Knight said. According to Natural Resources Canada, the average household consumes between 34 and 67 kiloWatt-Hours per day.

Generally, current small-scale wind energy generators require wind speeds of at least 18 km/h to generate any power, but Knight's device could be used in low wind environments, such as the Edmonton, Alberta area, where the average wind is 10 km/h.

"But it wouldn't be something you'd put in your garden. Energy is already cheap and abundant in Edmonton, so it wouldn't be financially viable in the city," Knight said, adding that fast turning wind

turbines in a small yard would create a hazard.

However, the generators could be used at remote locations outside of the city, where the power supply is more expensive and less abundant.

Based on the results of his ongoing work, Knight is hopeful that wind energy might one day become a clean, renewable, viable source of energy for everyone to use, which would counter the environmental damage occurring from our current use of fossil fuels as our main source for energy.

"My work is something that can make a small change, and it's probably a bunch of small changes here and there that will add up and one day have a big impact," he said. ■




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Complete program details and registration information can be found at the conference website.

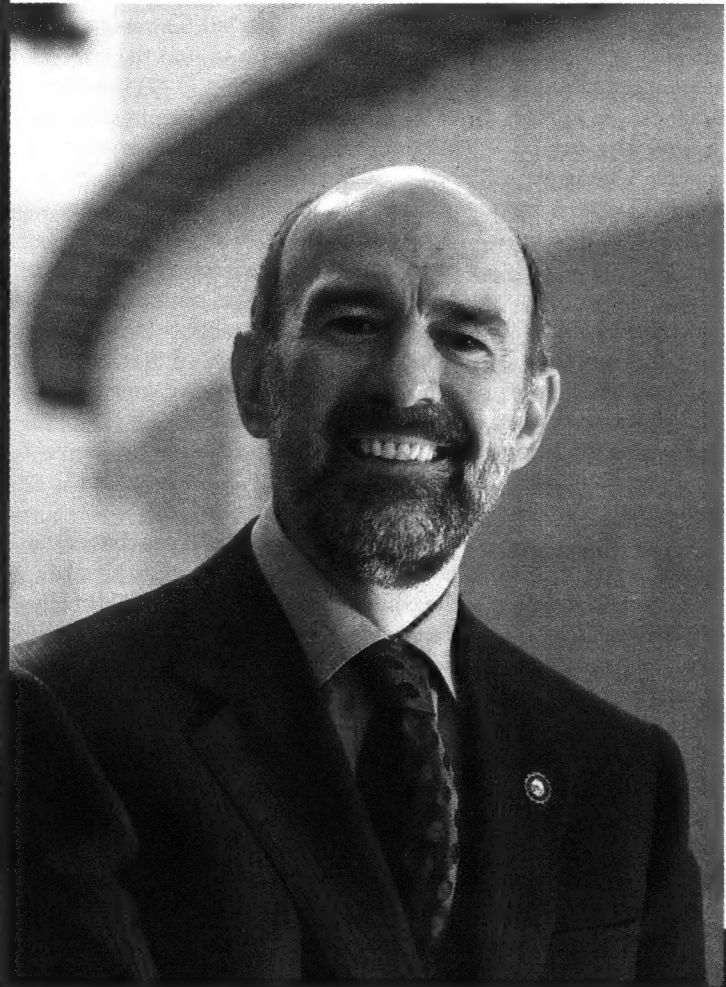
www.healthyuconference.ualberta.ca
Registration Deadline is **September 30th!**



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Dr. Carl G. Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), University of Alberta, is pleased to announce that Dr. David T. Lynch has been appointed to a third term as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta, effective July 1, 2005.

During Dr. Lynch's tenure as Dean, the Faculty of Engineering has experienced unprecedented growth and development. Total undergraduate and graduate enrolment of highly qualified students has increased by over 50 percent to 4,300 students, total external support now exceeds \$50 million per year, over 120 outstanding new faculty have been appointed including 25 chairholders, and more than one million square feet of exceptional new teaching, learning and research space has been constructed. These developments have placed the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta in the very top rank of the over 400 engineering schools in North America.




"The future of the Faculty of Engineering has never been brighter with unparalleled opportunities before us. In the coming years, we will strengthen even further our national and international reputation for teaching and research excellence as we enhance our existing programs and develop exciting and innovative new avenues for engineering education and research.

The tremendous growth and success of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta could not have happened without the outstanding support of our government and corporate partners, and the extraordinary advocacy and generosity of our University of Alberta alumni. To all of you who have shared the vision of creating an exceptional Faculty of Engineering and who have so strongly contributed to future generations of engineering students and faculty, I offer my heartfelt thanks and commitment to continue and accelerate our progress."

David T. Lynch, PhD, P.Eng.
Dean, Faculty of Engineering

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10 am - 4 pm (lunch provided)

KEYNOTES:

To Be Confirmed

Walter Stewart,

Cyberinfrastructure Visionary

OCTOBER 13

University of Calgary
BioSciences Room 525B

10 am - 4 pm (lunch provided)

KEYNOTES:

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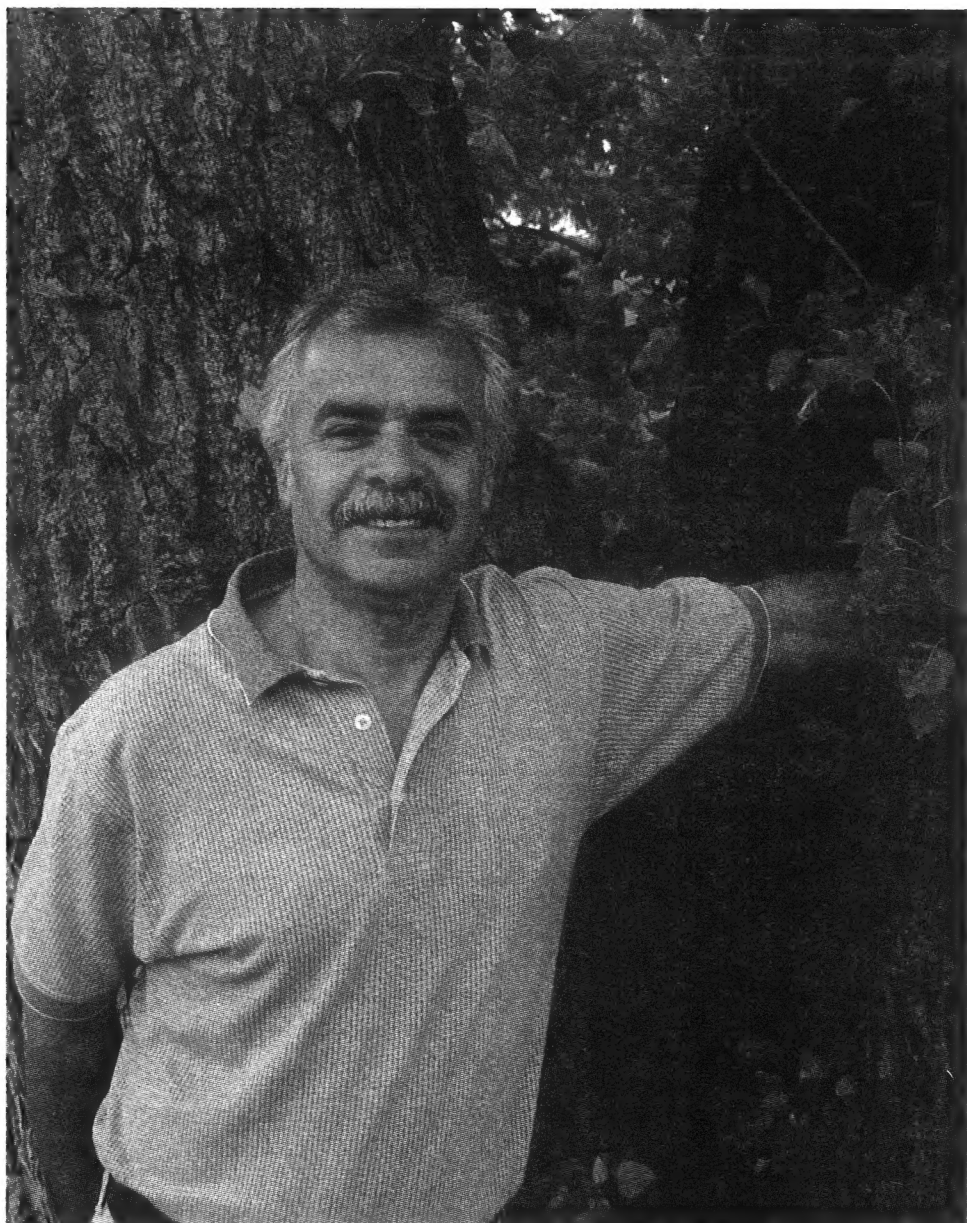
Walter Stewart,

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ALLIANCE



Francisco Velasquez

Chilean ex-pat mobilizes to help hometown hospital

**Francisco Velasquez is working hard to send medical supplies to the
only hospital in Quintero, Chile**

By Andrew Renfree

As he sits surrounded by monitors and cables in the heart of the U of A's computer department, Academic Information and Communication Technologies employee Francisco Velasquez's thoughts turn to his hometown of Quintero, Chile—and after work, his actions follow.

Velasquez is the president of the International Fraternity of Quintero (FIQ), an organization that was formed in early 2001 to send medical supplies to the lone hospital in Quintero, which serves about 35,000 people in that city and surrounding towns. The group is composed of many people who were either born or have lived in Quintero and now reside in different countries throughout the world.

Their goal is to send a container filled with as many as six wheelchairs, 10 hospital beds, 1,200 shirts, and various other medical supplies to Quintero before Christmas. According to Velasquez, the idea to help his hometown came from traveling there, and through discussions with his friends and family who had a connection with the town.

"Talking with these friends we came to the conclusion that we've got it so good, wherever we live," said Velasquez. "In countries as nice as Canada, we have so many facilities, medical care for people, education and so on.

"It hurts us to see this little town deteriorate and not progress as it should. We figure we're living okay, so why shouldn't we be able to do something?"

Velasquez noted that there are corporations and chemical companies in Quintero, but he said they are not concerned with charity and the well-being of the locals.

You should see the look
on their faces when we
deliver a wheelchair to a
person who is confined
to a house, or to their
bed, or cannot walk –
it's amazing.

— Francisco Velasquez

Corporate apathy didn't faze Velasquez, though, and he became determined to get medical supplies to the community hospital any way he could.

"My idea is to collect all of these [medical supplies] and eventually raise enough money to bring them over to Quintero, through our donations, by our fundraising, or whatever we have to do, but we're going to do it," he said. "This is a brand new experience for us, but the motivation

is there and we're going to get it done."

Velasquez travels to Quintero on an annual basis, and for the past several years he has been collecting and bringing supplies with him. He can only bring a few items each time, such as two wheelchairs or a suitcase full of shirts, as he has to pay for the luggage charges out of his own pocket. Now, the members of the FIQ are working to raise \$10,000 so that they can afford to ship a large volume of supplies to Chile in December.

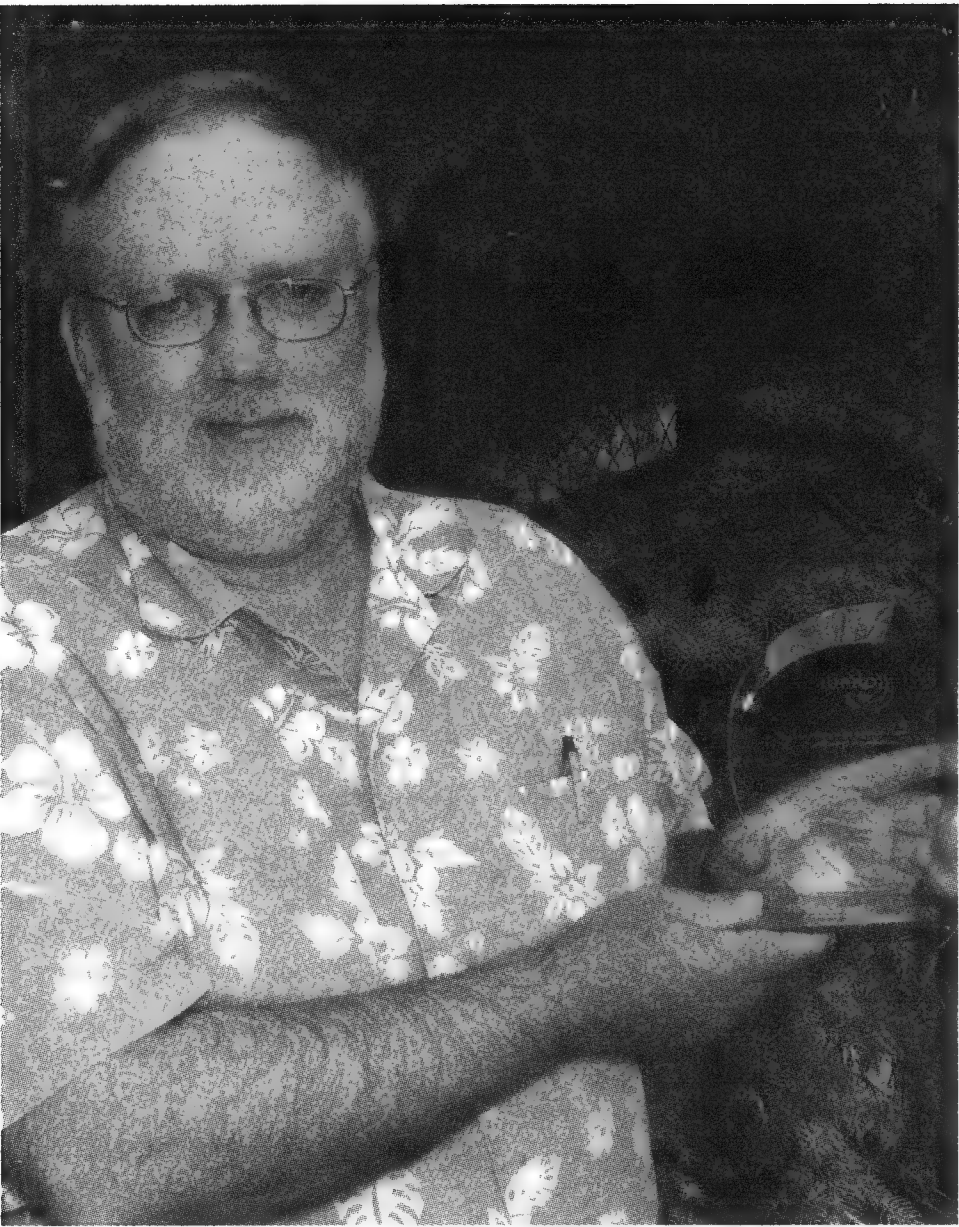
"A wheelchair would be the equivalent of roughly \$150 in Canada," said Velasquez.

"I would say about 10 per cent of the population [in Quintero] doesn't make the equivalent of \$75 a month. Normally the people in need are those low-income people, so how are they going to be able to afford these wheelchairs?"

Velasquez said the greatest reward for him is seeing the reaction of the local citizens who his group helps.

"You should see the look on their faces when we deliver a wheelchair to a person who is confined to a house, or to their bed, or cannot walk – it's amazing." ■

This article originally appeared in the July 21, 2005 issue of *The Gateway*.



Dr. John Spence

Renewable resources chair earns international award

Dr. John Spence has turned a childhood fascination into a successful academic career

By Caitlin Crawshaw

Growing up on a forest's edge in western Pennsylvania, University of Alberta entomologist Dr. John Spence spent his boyhood amongst all sorts of critters.

"All around me there were these creatures, and hundreds and hundreds of different kinds, and they were all active and doing different things. I just became interested in insects at a very young age, and I still am," he said.

Spence has turned his passion for bugs into a successful academic career, including more than 20 years spent at the U of A.

This month, for his many years of work in entomology and ecology, Spence was recognized by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), a global network for forest science researchers. The organization awarded Spence a Scientific Achievement Award. U of A ecologist Dr. Victor Lieffers also took home the prize.

Spence and Lieffers are among many U of A faculty members to have earned international and national recognition for forestry research in recent years, including Dr. Bruce Dancik and Dr. Francis Yeh who received the same award from the IUFRO, and more recently, Dr. Paul Woodard and Alex Drummond who received Canadian Institute of Forestry awards earlier this week.

Spence's career has covered a lot of ground, and has involved pure entomological exploration as well as applied entomology work, including research of how insects fare in harvested forests. In collaboration with his colleagues and students, Spence discovered that Alberta insects do not recover quickly from deforestation.

"I think we've called a lot of attention to the fact that forestry in its various manifestations has a large range of poorly understood effects on the organisms that live in the forest," he said. "I've been

My colleagues and I sometimes say that we probably have the most interesting topic to study at universities, because insects are so wonderfully diverse and complex and have such amazing life cycles

— Dr John Spence

mostly concerned about the insects."

The long-time beetle collector and his colleagues, Dr. David Langor and Dr. Jari Niemela, discovered in the late 1980s that in some areas in the province that had undergone traditional forestry techniques, there were unexpected effects on some types of beetles.

"So we began to explore what aspects of forestry were

having these effects and what we could do in a more positive way to help the industry deal with these effects and minimize them," he said.

Spence explained that the scientists were concerned a two-pass harvest system would basically extirpate the beetles from the landscape. This method of harvesting trees, which is no longer the norm, involves cutting down half of a stand of trees and leaving the other half untouched for nearly two decades, or until the other half recovers sufficiently. However, in areas where this technique was used, insects were not recovering their numbers in good time, and biodiversity of both flora and fauna were suffering as a result.

Since then, Spence's lab has been studying the impacts of forestry on insects, and has, in fact, been financially supported by forestry companies interested in improving their practices.

After many decades of scientific exploration, the chair of the Department of Renewable Resources is still impassioned by entomology.

"My colleagues and I sometimes say that we probably have the most interesting topic to study at universities, because insects are so wonderfully diverse and complex and have such amazing life cycles. It's really a very interesting area to work in. It's been fascinating for me for 50-some years. It still is." ■

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is pleased to announce the results of the 2005 competition for
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*What are the care and quality of life needs
of seniors in assisted living facilities?*

Dr. Colleen Maxwell (above right), Dr. Laurel Strain (above left), and a team of researchers at the universities of Calgary, Alberta and Lethbridge, as well as a number of other health organizations have been awarded nearly \$900,000 over the next three years through an AHFMR research funding initiative called the Programs in Health Services Research. The goal of their research program is to examine care and quality of life for seniors in continuing care and assisted living facilities. Their main focus is to examine the effect of recent reforms on the health outcomes, costs and quality of care for older Canadians.

The Programs in Health Services Research build on the activities of the existing Health Research Fund* and the State of the Science Reviews programs. The Programs in Health Services Research are intended to fund research in priority areas of: Continuum of Care and Delivery Models; Governance and Accountability; Financing and Public Expectations; or Information Technology and Information Management for the Improvement of Health.

*AHFMR administers the Programs in Health Services Research and the Health Research Fund on behalf of Alberta Health and Wellness



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John & Eileen Jorgens

Lectureship



Dr. Lynn Frewer is a Professor of Food Safety
and Consumer Behaviour at the University
of Wageningen in the Netherlands. She will
present a seminar entitled:

“Consumer Risk Perceptions, Attitudes and Food Safety”

**Wednesday, September 21, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.,
Theatre, Telus Centre (Reception to Follow).**

*If you are unable to attend the seminar, please note it will be
“Webcast Live” at <http://www.re.ualberta.ca/webcast/>*

Sponsored by the John & Eileen Jorgens Lectureship; Faculty of
Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics; and the Department of
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University of Alberta graduate student Alex Drummond

National award helps forestry educator's career take root

**Alex Drummond has been recognized by the Canadian Institute of
Forestry for his outstanding contribution to forestry**

By Caitlin Crawshaw

Alex Drummond is only at the start of
his career, but today the University
of Alberta graduate student picked up a
national award for his forestry work.

Drummond, a masters student in
renewable resources, received the James M.
Kitz Award from the Canadian Institute of
Forestry for his outstanding contribution to
the field at the institute's annual conference
in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. In addition
to his graduate studies, Drummond is a
sessional lecturer in forestry management,
integrated resource management, wildlife
ecology and biodiversity, and other topics,
and is the field school director and intern-
ship officer for the forestry and conserva-
tion biology programs.

While he was aware he was nominated,
Drummond admits that the recognition
wasn't expected.

"It came as a real surprise - a very
pleasant surprise," he said. "Not many
people can put that kind of a national
award on their CV relatively early in their
career. It's a huge honour being recognized
by your peers across Canada."

Drummond's research has focused on
balancing ecological concerns with eco-
nomic demands.

"There's a proposal now to increase
zones of protection to preserve forest val-
ues, biodiversity, esthetics, spiritual values
of the forest. But at the same time, we have

a model here whereby there's an economic
interest to keep our forests producing a
fibre resource to contribute to the economy
and to keep communities stable and so
forth," he said.

"Those two approaches are often incon-
gruous."

A new approach has been presented,
sometimes known as "the triad," combin-
ing three zones of forest management to
increase environmental protection while
maximizing the number of trees harvested.
By zoning three areas to yield higher vol-
umes of forest product - including one
section where nothing at all is harvested
- forests may be better maintained, accord-
ing to some researchers. Drummond is
exploring whether this model is appropri-
ate for Alberta.

"One of the realities is that in Alberta
we already have this model - though it's not
called the triad by the provincial government
- but essentially we have that written in
policy or recommendations for policy. But no
one's ever looked at whether it can be imple-
mented on the landscape, so I'm trying to ask
those questions," said Drummond.

Drummond was not the only U of A
forester to be recognized by the national
organization. Dr. Paul Woodard, a profes-
sor of forest fire management and ecol-
ogy, won the 2005 Canadian Forestry
Achievement Award.

positions

*The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit.
We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from
all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal per-
sons. With regard to teaching positions: All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and
permanent residents will be given priority. For complete U of A job listings visit www.hrs.ualberta.ca.*

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The Department of Sociology invites applica-
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Department of Sociology
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta Canada T6G 2H4
Fax: (780) 492-7196

For additional information, Sociology website
is at www.arts.ualberta.ca/socweb/

All qualified candidates are encouraged to
apply; however, Canadians and permanent resi-
dents will be given priority.

talks & events

Submit talks and events to Lorraine Neumayer by 12 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings will no longer accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>.** A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca.

UNTIL SEPT 16 2005

REWIND: An Exhibition on Windsor Park Community REWIND focuses on Windsor Park, the community to the west of the University. With a focus on material culture from an historical and social perspective, the exhibition explores the neighbourhood's architectural diversity through a highly developed visual element, accompanied by various stories and captions on the life and vibrancy of the community and its members. Human Ecology Gallery, main floor Human Ecology Building 116St & 89Ave. Grand opening 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

UNTIL SEPT 16 2005

Dare to Discover Movie Fest University of Alberta's 1st annual movie fest! Open to all students attending the University of Alberta in fall 2005. Free to enter! Free use of equipment! Free use of editing stations! Free food and guaranteed fun! Enter your 6-10 member production team and create a five-minute film for a chance to win over \$10,000 in prizes! Registration takes place in the Student Union Building on campus. Red Carpet movie showing will take place in Horowitz Theatre on campus on Sept 16th 2005 at 3:30 p.m.!

UNTIL SEPT 14 2005

University Teaching Services The 2005 Annual Orientation for Graduate Teaching Assistants is scheduled for 12 - 14, 2005. The Orientation is aimed at the novice instructor who may have extensive subject matter expertise but little teaching experience. Advance registration is required. For more information go to http://www.ualberta.ca/UTS/GTA_Fall2005_program.pdf Various locations. See http://www.ualberta.ca/UTS/GTA_Fall2005_program.pdf for more details.

SEPT 09 2005

The Starkey Ungulate Ecology Project: Interactions Among Elk, Mule Deer, and Cattle in the Intermountain West Dr. John G. Kie, Department of Biological Sciences, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID and U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, La Grande, OR, is presenting a seminar on "The Starkey Ungulate Ecology Project: Interactions Among Elk, Mule Deer, and Cattle in the Intermountain West" Room M-145 of the Biological Sciences Building. 12:00 p.m.

Physics Colloquium Speaker: Professor Jorg Fink IFW Dresden, Germany & Ames Laboratory, USA Topic: Can we learn something from ARPES on the mechanism of high-Tc superconductivity? 3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. V128 Physics Building.

Celebration of Teaching and Learning Annual celebration of major student and faculty award recipients. 3:30 p.m. Myer Horowitz Theatre.

Lecture in CIUS Seminar Series Natalia Yakovenko, Chair, Department of History, Kyiv Mohyla Academy National University, will give a lecture (in Ukrainian) on "The Perception of Early Modern Ukraine by Today's Ukrainians." She is one of Ukraine's leading specialists in the history of late medieval and early modern Ukraine. 3:30 p.m. 227 Athabasca Hall (Heritage Lounge).

Music at Convocation Hall I Alvin Lowrey, trumpet Russell Whitehead, trumpet William Dimmer, trumpet Fordyce Pier, trumpet Roger Admiral, piano Marnie Giesbrecht, organ Brian Jones, percussion Michael Massey, conductor Ceremonial Music Fanfare for St. Edmundsbury for 3 Trumpets: Benjamin Britten Sonata à 3 for 3 Trumpets and Organ: Giovanni Gabrieli Okna, for Trumpet and Organ: Petr Eben Fanfare for a New Theatre, for 2 Trumpets: Igor Stravinsky Canzon cornetto à 4 for 4 Trumpets: Samuel Scheidt Khaldis, for Piano, Trumpets and Percussion: Alan Hovhaness 8:00 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

SEPT 10 2005

Saturday Walk with a Horticulturist (Kurimoto Japanese Garden) Meet garden horticulturist Don Sprigings at noon at the Shop-In-The-Garden. Don will provide a guided tour of the beautiful Kurimoto Japanese Garden and provide information to all your questions. Call (780) 987-2064 to book your spot and enjoy a fall walk. Regular admission rates apply. 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. 5 KM North of the Town of Devon on Hwy. 60.

Faculty Women's Club Fall Membership Tea Female academics, wives or female partners of AASUA affiliated academic staff, both active and retired, are invited to attend the annual FWC Membership Tea at the Faculty Club on September 10 between 1 and 3 p.m. Sign up for interest groups and learn about the program for the coming year. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Faculty Club.

SEPT 10 - SEPT 17 2005

Faculty of Nursing and Department of Drama present Bearing Witness Countries are

not safe. Beds are not safe. No one is allowed to see clearly in the dark. The University of Alberta's Faculty of Nursing and Department of Drama are collaborating to present Bearing Witness, a play written by Twilla and Mark Welch, a mental health nurse and a nursing professor, and directed by Kathleen Weiss of the Department of Drama. Bearing Witness takes a bold and dramatic look at trauma, pairing health research with the arts, exemplifying the University of Alberta's multidisciplinary approach towards research, education and community service. Based on the Welchs' research and clinical experience with trauma survivors, the play is a form of research dissemination, a teaching tool, and a challenging and innovative piece of art that revolves around the parallel stories of a man tortured for his political beliefs and a younger woman who remembers her sexual abuse. Public performances run in the Second Playing Space of the Timms Centre for the Arts, September 10 and September 14 - 17, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets (\$20 General Public, \$10 Student) available at TIX on the Square, by phone 420.1757 or online at www.tix-onthesquare.ca. Please note: Bearing Witness contains explicit material on sexual abuse and torture and may not be suitable for all audiences.

SEPT 11 2005

Music at Convocation Hall II Featuring Guillaume Tardif, violin; Music with a Royal Subject; From the Musical Offering on a royal theme: Johann Sebastian Bach, Les Arpèges, Op 10, No 9; "God save Emperor Franz": Joseph Haydn/Henryk Wieniawski. From the Magic Flute, the Queen of the Night: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Erbkönig: Franz Schubert/ Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst, Two Preludes and Sonata No 3 "to Georges Enesco". Eugène Ysaÿe. Two Caprices and Variations on "God Save the King": Niccolò Paganini. Sunday, September 11, 2005, 3:00 p.m., Convocation Hall.

SEPT 12 2005

Emergent Self-organization as Order For Free Philip Hanson Department of Philosophy Simon Fraser University 3:30 p.m. Humanities Centre 4-29.

SEPT 13 2005

Applying for SSHRC Standard Grants This presentation on applying for SSHRC Standard Grants includes updates on the grant and the 2005 competition. SSHRC Program Offices will provide participants with valuable tips and strategies on constructing a successful application. This workshop is an excellent opportunity for researchers who are already working on their application to get the answers to questions they may have. First-time applicants will also find this workshop invaluable. Register at The Learning Shop online. 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Council Chambers University Hall.

SEPT 14 2005

TAWAW 2005 New & Returning Student Orientation; Annual TAWAW Round Dance 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Main Quad Area.

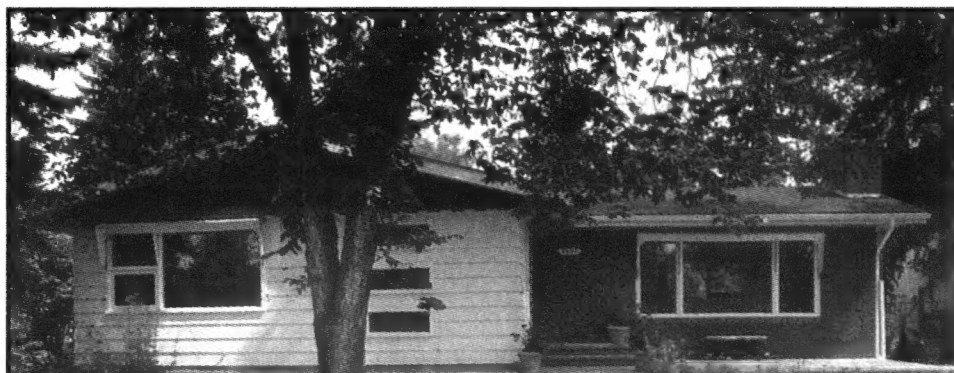
PHS Grand Rounds Dr Carl Phillips, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences "Business as Usual" Epidemiology: Creating a Flawed Literature for Flawed Policy Decisions 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building.

Reading by F.T. Flahiff from his new biography of Sheila Watson: "Always Someone to Kill the Doves: A Life of Sheila Watson" Crafted from archives, interviews, memories, and bankers boxes of papers sent to the author during the years before her death, Always Someone to Kill the Doves: A Life of Sheila Watson, is the portrait of a woman shaped by her times, by her turbulent marriage, by the clarity of genius, and by the moral sense of her Catholic upbringing. With the gentle touch of an old friend, Flahiff provides a poignant insight into the woman, the westerner, and the writer. Best known for the modernist novel, The Double Hook, and her part in creating the literary magazine White Pelican, Watson's life was as rich and complex as her finest literary creation. 3:30 p.m. HC L-3.

SEPT 15 2005

Alberta Cancer Diagnostic Consortium (ACDC) Unveiling The Alberta Cancer Diagnostics Consortium unveils its new lab in the Research Transition Facility and will showcase its prototype lab-on-a-chip devices and handheld tools for rapid, cost-effective, portable and accurate diagnosis of conditions such as various cancers or genetic predispositions to ailments. The ACDC is a collaborative endeavor involving Dr. Linda Pilarski (Professor of Oncology, U of A, Alberta Cancer Board and NINT) and Dr. Chris Backhouse (Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and NINT). 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Research Transition Facility.

"How to Solve The Non-Identity Problem" David Boonin Philosophy Department University of



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The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research

is delighted to announce the results of the 2005 Health Research Fund competition.

How do we help children and their families cope with cancer? What are the nutrition and fitness habits of Alberta adolescents? How do we educate university students about the risks of excessive alcohol?

Better health now and in the future demands answers to questions like these and many others. The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, on behalf of Alberta Health and Wellness, is helping to provide the ways to answer them through the Health Research Fund.*



Health Research Fund projects study aspects of health services, population health, mental health, and health technology assessment. This year, more than \$2.2 million has been awarded to 20 research teams throughout the province conducting two-year projects. A further \$838,266 has been released to researchers conducting ongoing projects approved in last year's competition.

Congratulations to:

Donald Addington, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Pamela Barton, Calgary Health Region

Ted Braun, Calgary Health Region

Johanna Darrah, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, UA

Carole Estabrooks, Faculty of Nursing, UA

Julie Fox, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Brent Hagel, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, UA

David Hanley, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Robert Hilsden, Faculty of Medicine, UC**

Marie Louie, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Linda McCargar, Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, UA

Lynn Meadows, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Danièle Pacaud, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Susan Ross, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Duncan Saunders, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, UA

Shervin Vakili, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Jian Li Wang, Faculty of Medicine, UC

Deborah White, Calgary Health Region

Adrienne Witol, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, UA

*AHFMR administers the Health Research Fund through a contract with Alberta Health and Wellness

**Funded for two projects

UA means University of Alberta
UC means University of Calgary

For more information about these awards, including how and when to apply, and for general and funding information on AHFMR, contact:

Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research
Suite 1500, 10104 - 103 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 4A7
Phone: (780) 423-5727
E-mail: ahfmrinfo@ahfmr.ab.ca

A full list of new and ongoing projects is available on our web site:
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ACADEMIC INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Announcing Academic Information and Communication Technologies

Over the summer, Computing and Network Services (CNS) completed a structural reorganization and was renamed Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT).

The reorganization was informed by feedback received from the campus community and our staff, together with the increasing need for more efficient and effective support to enhance teaching, learning and research activities.

Our vision is to align ICT functionality, capability and services with the University's Academic Plan. Our long-term strategic direction is focused on core services, improving our internal environment, building a learning organization, creating an excellent client experience, leveraging technology and technological innovation, building better partnerships and collaborations, and developing a sustainable business model. The new structure will also allow us to focus more on e-learning and make necessary changes to our e-learning services and support.

The flexibility gained through the realignment of services will allow us to better tailor our support to the needs of the academic community. We will be working closely with the Faculty-Based ICT Steering Committee to ensure that faculties receive the support and services required to enhance their teaching, learning and research activities.

The renaming of Computing and Network Services to Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT) emphasizes our focus on support to the academic community.

We are confident that this reorganization will prove to be positive for the entire campus community.

If you have questions or concerns, call Marika Bourque, Associate CITO and Executive Director of AICT, at 492-4767.

The reorganization announcement is available at:

www.ualberta.ca/aict/news/reorg.html

Colorado 3:30 p.m. Humanities Centre 4-29.

SEPT 16 2005

Health Ethics Seminar Mandatory Reporting Of Gunshot Wounds: Should Health Care Professionals Be Required To Pull The Trigger? 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Room 207, Heritage Medical Research Centre.

Frontiers in Biology Distinguished Lecture Series The Department of Biological Sciences is pleased to announce Chris M. Wood, F.R.S.C. and Canada Research Chair in Environment and Health at McMaster University as the 2005 Frontiers in Biology Distinguished Lecturer. Dr. Wood will present his lecture, "Using fish gill and gut physiology to develop environmental regulations for metals" A wine and cheese reception will follow the lecture. Dr. Declan Ali hosts this event. 3:30 p.m. 1-017 Engineering Teaching Learning Complex.

Kilburn Memorial Concert Kilburn Memorial Concert Visiting Artist Gilbert Kalish, piano. 8:00 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

SEPT 17 2005

Piano Masterclass Visiting Artist Gilbert Kalish 9:00 a.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

SEPT 18 2005

Crafters Fall Sale The middle week in September the Crafter's Natural Creations Workshop and Gallery will be overflowing with unique and one-of-a-kind creations for your shopping pleasure. In addition to dried flower arrangements, you will find potpourri items, pressed flower cards, pictures and jewelry, handmade creams and soaps, candles and dried bundles for your own designs. Admission is free to attend the Craft sale and to view the Garden; however, donations are very much appreciated. So take a drive, enjoy the fall colors and pay us a visit. Door prizes will be awarded. Call Visitor Services at (780) 987-3054 for further information. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 5 KM North of the Town of Devon on Hwy. 60.

SEPT 19 2005

Win Big at HUB Mall 'Win Big' is back again at HUB Mall! Open to all full time U of A students, with the opportunity to win one of two \$750 tuition vouchers, campus parking or ETS passes, HUB Mall shopping spree, a spa package, a Coca-Cola gift pack...and more! Just stop by the HUB Mall Administration office, room 209, to pick up your entry forms (limit of two), or drop off the entry forms you receive from one of our friendly student staff members you'll see all over campus. For more details, call 492-5609. Draw takes place on Friday September 30th, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. sharp! Good luck! HUB Mall Administration office (Room 209-HUB).

SEPT 21 - OCTOBER 7 2005

Business Ethics Student and Faculty Online Surveys The Business Ethics Student and Faculty online Surveys are available on Blackboard through the School of Business or through the Canadian Centre for Social Entrepreneurship. These School of Business online surveys are designed to assess the knowledge and interest levels in Business Ethics, Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Entrepreneurship in both students and faculty. The surveys will be available online through Blackboard at the Business School or at <https://www.bus.ualberta.ca/ccse>. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SEPT 21 2005

Careers Day 2005 One of the largest career fairs in Canada will take place this September at the UofA. Careers Day is open to all students and alumni to provide them with an opportunity to connect with over 150 employers. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Universiade Pavillion (Butterdome).

PHS Grand Rounds Dr Igor Burstyn, Assistant Professor and Grand Rounds Series Coordinator, Public Health Sciences "Health of Workers Exposed to Asphalt Fumes" 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building.

Signaling for sex in C.elegans David Greenstein, Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, Vanderbilt University, Tennessee is presenting a seminar on "Signaling for sex in C.elegans" at 3:30 p.m. in B-121 of the Biological Sciences Building 3:30 p.m.

SEPT 22 2005

Guest Speaker Dr. Sergio Grinstein Professor Division of Cell Biology Hospital for Sick Children University of Toronto Title: Membrane remodelling during phagosome formation and maturation 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

PhD Thesis Defence Xinhua Zhao Title: Characterization of the large mammalian Arf-GEFs: GBF1 and BIGs 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. Room 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

"Is 'Non-Conceptual Content' Content?" Louise Antony Department of Philosophy Ohio State University 3:30 p.m. Humanities Centre 4-29.

Hear's toYour Health Hear's toYour Health Martin Riseley, violin Ronda Metszies, cello Patricia Tao, piano Kakadu Variations: Beethoven Piano Trio no. 1: Arensky 5:00 p.m. Health Sciences Complex, W.C. Mackenzie.

SEPT 22 - OCT 1 2005

Studio Theatre presents Ribbon by Patricia Darbasie In the true spirit of Alberta's Centennial celebration, Studio Theatre opens the 2005-2006 season with MFA Directing candidate Patricia Darbasie's unique creation about reclaiming and discovering one's past. Ribbon, a one-woman show, written, performed and directed by Darbasie, is about the history of the black settlers who homesteaded in Amber Valley. The play centres on a contemporary character, Paula, and her search to find something of value among her great grandmother's long forgotten possessions on the neglected family homestead. Paula soon finds nothing is truly lost on the farm. Advance tickets available through TIX on the Square 420.1757 or online at www.tixonthesquare.ca. Walk-up tickets available at the Timms Centre Box Office one hour prior to curtain, for that day's performance only. No performance Sunday, September 25, 2005. 8:00 p.m. Timms Centre for the Arts.

SEPT 23 2005

Globalization and Neo-liberalism: Future Prospects and Alternatives Noted speakers from Canada, Mexico, the United States and Australia will gather to discuss US power and the current move toward deeper integration with the US. This day's lecture series is geared to academics and graduate students in Alberta. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tory Breezeway #2.

Applying for NSERC Discovery & RTI Grants This workshop will provide participants with information on how to prepare their Discovery Grant and Research Tools and Instruments (RTI) Grant applications. Mr. Paul Potvin, Program Officer from NSERC, will co-present with a current Grant Selection Committee member. This session includes updates on NSERC, news on NSERC programs and statistics from the 2005 competition. Don't miss this chance to learn from a NSERC Program Officer on what makes a fundable proposal. Register at The Learning Shop online. 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. E1-003 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Arterial Compliance and Ethnicity (ACE)

Speaker: Dr. Joe Noon, Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta 3:00 p.m. 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

Virgin birth, microtubules and pathogens Bill Sullivan, Department of Biology, University of California, Santa Cruz, California is presenting a seminar on "Virgin birth, microtubules and pathogens" on Friday, September 30, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. in Room M-149 of the Biological Sciences Building as part of the Genetics 605 Graduate Student Seminar Series. 3:30 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building.

SEPT 23 - 24 2005

Resisting the Empire: Challenges to US Power Noted speakers from Canada, Mexico, the United States and Australia will gather Friday evening and all-day Saturday to discuss US power and the current move toward deeper integration with the US. This conference is a culmination of five years of work by international researchers of the Globalism and Its Challengers Project. Panels will examine the US turn towards Empire in relation to a variety of topics. Alternatives to integration with Bush's America will be explored. For more info on the Globalism Project, please check out: www.ualberta.ca/globalism 7:00 p.m. Lister Conference Centre (116th Street and 87th Avenue).

SEPT 24 2005

University of Alberta United Way Campaign Kick-Off and 46th Annual Campus Recreation Turkey Trot University of Alberta will Kick-Off its United Way Campaign in conjunction with the 46th Annual Campus Recreation Turkey Trot. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Race/Walk at 10:30 a.m. Awards Ceremony and Kick-Off at 11:30 a.m. Butterdome.

SEPT 25 2005

Installation of new UofA President Installation of the new President of the University of Alberta 12:00 p.m. Jubilee Auditorium.

Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony

Tea ceremonies will be hosted at the Ozawa Pavilion which is an authentic Japanese Tea House set in the tranquil Kurimoto Japanese Garden. Sittings will be held at 1:30, 2:15 and 3:00. Maximum of four people for the 1:30 and 2:15 sitting and a maximum of twenty people for the 3:00 sitting. Explanation of the tearoom and tea ceremony will be provided to the general public, as well as Japanese sweets and tea. Experience Japanese culture in a unique setting. Cost \$5.00 per person. General admission rates apply. Contact Visitor Services at (780) 987-3054 for further information. 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. 5 KM North of the Town of Devon on Hwy. 60.

SEPT 26 2005

University Teaching Services (UTS) Motivating Students to Learn (C)+ Academic motivation has been a tricky concept to research and outline as it is considered to be a complex interaction of personal components. These factors will be discussed to try and portray the nature of motivation. The session looks at instructional ways to motivate students and

students responsibility in this process. Presenter: Karen Kovach, Academic Support Centre Pre-registration required. 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. CAB 243.

SEPT 28 2005

PHS Grand Rounds Guest Speaker: Dr Ainsley Weston, Team Leader, Molecular Biology, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Health Effects Laboratory Division (HELD), and Toxicology and Molecular Biology Branch (TMBB); Associate Professor, Molecular Biology, Pathology and Human Genetics, West Virginia University 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building.

University Teaching Services (UTS) Trials and Triumphs of Curricular Change (C) Are you finding that your present curriculum is not able to keep up with recent changes in practice? Has duplication and overlap silently crept into your courses? If you are

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ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RENT

REAL ESTATE - Buy or Sell, Leases (Furnished/unfurnished). Janet Fraser or Gordon W.R. King. Telephone: (780) 441-6441, www.gordonwrking-assoc.com Gordon W.R. King and Associates Real Estate Corp.

RIVERBEND - THE HEARTHSTONE - 3 bdrm, 2 storey townhouse, fully furnished, util. included. September 15/05 - Apr 15/06 \$1,400 mth. Call Janet 441-6441. Gordon W.R. King & Assoc.

STYLISH SUNNY HOUSE - 2-storey plus basement, 5 min walk to UofA, deck, garden, 2 washrooms, 5 appliances, professional couple or small family. 11005 - 80 Av. \$1500. Phone 945-1984.

SUNNY 4 BDM GREENFIELD - no smkg two storey 5 appliances. 2.5 bath in quiet cul-de-sac. Attached garage. Large fenced back yard with RV pad. \$1375/mo + util. Available immediately 901-4004.

LUXURY EXECUTIVE TWO BEDROOM CONDOMINIUM - near university farm. Heated parking. Exercise room. Six appliances. No pets/smokers. 430-6960.

LUXURY APARTMENT CONDO IN MATURE BELGRAVIA - located in a well maintained building, steps from river valley and UofA. 1300 sq. ft, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 26' x 10' sunny main floor patio, 6 appliances, dining room, large kitchen and living room /w gas fireplace. Rent includes heat, water and 2 parking stalls in a heated secure parkade. No smoking or pets. Rent is \$1300.00 a month. Contact Tom at (780) 432-1663 to view.

WALK TO UNIVERSITY - Sabbatical home, furnished, 2000+ sq ft, custom built on quiet Street. January - December, 2006. (780) 436-6513, marty.luckert@ualberta.ca.

EXECUTIVE HOUSE FOR RENT IN RIVERBEND - 10 minutes to university. Close to bus, shopping, parks. 2900 sq ft partially furnished, 5 appliances. 4 br, 4 bathroom, finished basement. \$1500/mo + utilities suitable for professional + family. Available Nov 1. No pets. No smoking. 463-1292.

EXECUTIVE WESTEND LOCATIONS - Immediate possession - Patricia Heights, Valleyview, Country Club, from \$1250.00 - \$2200.00. For details and to view call Abe 441-3399.

SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM APT RIVERBEND - Country setting. Ground floor private house. Separate entrance with patio. Newly carpeted and tiled. Good bus access. 15 minutes university. Close Fort Edmonton. Bike paths and walks. Rent \$750 includes all utilities. Call 434-6022.

EXECUTIVE CONDO - Large 2 bedroom, fully renovated, lovely view, great location close university. \$1090 includes utilities, parking, laundry, fees. Available Sept. n/s, no pets. Leslee Greenaway,

thinking about making a curricular change, you will get some suggestions for success and some tips on potential pitfalls as the challenges in curricular change in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences are explained. Presenter: Sheila Kelcher Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Pre-registration required. 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. CAB 243.

TEC Connector: Spin-off Company Showcase & Networking Event This TEC Connector event will showcase companies created based on University of Alberta inventions and technologies. In addition, the event is an active connector which will provide networking tools and tips, plus generate opportunities to connect with useful representatives in our community, including: - university researchers - professional service firms - financial support organizations - government agency representatives - media representatives 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Lister Hall Conference Centre.

Professional Realty Group, 477-7036/439-9818.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SALE

UPGRADED CONDO - Lots of extra features, laminate floors, ceramic tiles, dome lighting in kitchen spacious living and dining rooms, ensuite laundry, neutral décor. Direct bus to UofA. Call Mike 970-4090.

IDEAL HOME IN RIVERBEND - 4 bedrooms 2 storey in Brander Gardens. Large family room off kitchen has gorgeous fieldstone fireplace. Overlooks huge deck and backyard - a park-like setting with landscaping and mature trees. Call 233-2323 Norma Hodson. Professional Realty www.edmontonsold.com.

BELGRAVIA \$549,000 - Substantially renovated 1 1/2 Storey, 2680', 4 bedrooms, attached double garage, spectacular great room or study. Fireplace, 4 pce ensuite, updated shingles. Siding, landscaping. Ed Lastiwka, Royal LePage Noralta 431-5600. Photos. Edshomepage.com.

BEAUTIFUL BELGRAVIA HOME! Lovely, upgraded 1260 sq ft bungalow with three bedrooms + den & two full bathrooms. This original owner home has a delightful yard and double garage. Quick possession available. Pictures at JackBowden.com or call Jack at 497-0223. \$324,900. Royal LePage Noralta.

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ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED

VISITING LECTURE - Looking for reasonably-priced, furnished accommodation, located near UofA, from January to April. Please contact Sharla (ssava@sfu.ca).

SERVICES

VIOLIN LESSONS FOR TEENS AND ADULTS - Instructor has B.Ed and ARCT. Five years Symphony experience and 25 teaching. Southwest Edmonton. 433-1541.

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CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL BARTENDER - All special occasions. Please call Tori @ 504-4715.

University of Alberta, 6th floor extension Centre.

UNTIL OCTOBER 30, 2005

CROSS-CULTURAL STUDY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We are conducting a cross cultural study (Italy and Canada) to learn more about what young people think, know and feel about AIDS. If you are 18 - 25 years old and you would like to give us your opinion, you may participate in one of our online discussion groups participation will be anonymous!! It would be a great opportunity to share opinions! If you are interested or if you have any questions, please contact us by phoning at 492-6413 or writing to guendalina.graffigna@unicatt.it. Thank you! International Institute of Qualitative Methodology, University of Alberta; Internet.

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UNTIL SEPT 30 2005

CROSS CULTURAL STUDY ON RISKY BEHAVIOURS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We are conducting a cross cultural study (Italy vs Canada) to learn more about what young people think, know and feel about AIDS. If you are 18 - 25 years old and you would like to give us your opinion, you may choose a face-to-face discussion group or an online discussion group, according to your preference (online discussion participation will be anonymous). It would be a great opportunity to share opinions and doubts with other young people! If you are interested in participating or if you have any questions, please contact us! guendalina.graffigna@unicatt.it and the phone: 492 6413. International Institute of Qualitative Methodology,

history lessons

Collector puts toy soldiers on active duty at Edmonton schools

By Kaila Simoneau

Most collectors, whether their passion is comic books or antique cars, prefer their objects of obsession to be in mint condition. Dr. Brian Nielsen's criteria for adding an item to his toy soldier collection, however, is quite the opposite.

"To me, there is a charm in a toy that has allowed kids to use their imagination," said Nielsen, the University of Alberta's student discipline office and professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation. "When they're a bit worn, it means that they haven't been kept as a collector's item—it means they have been played with, which is what the toy soldiers were originally made for."

Nielsen began collecting toy soldiers as an eight-year-old boy growing up in Connecticut, and now possesses nearly 28,000 soldiers from 26 different countries, and comprised of almost 25 different materials, like cardboard, metal, plastic, sand and sawdust.

Unlike other collectors, Nielsen's soldiers aren't retired to a display case once they are added to his collection. Instead, Nielsen keeps them on active duty as a tool to get young kids excited about history.

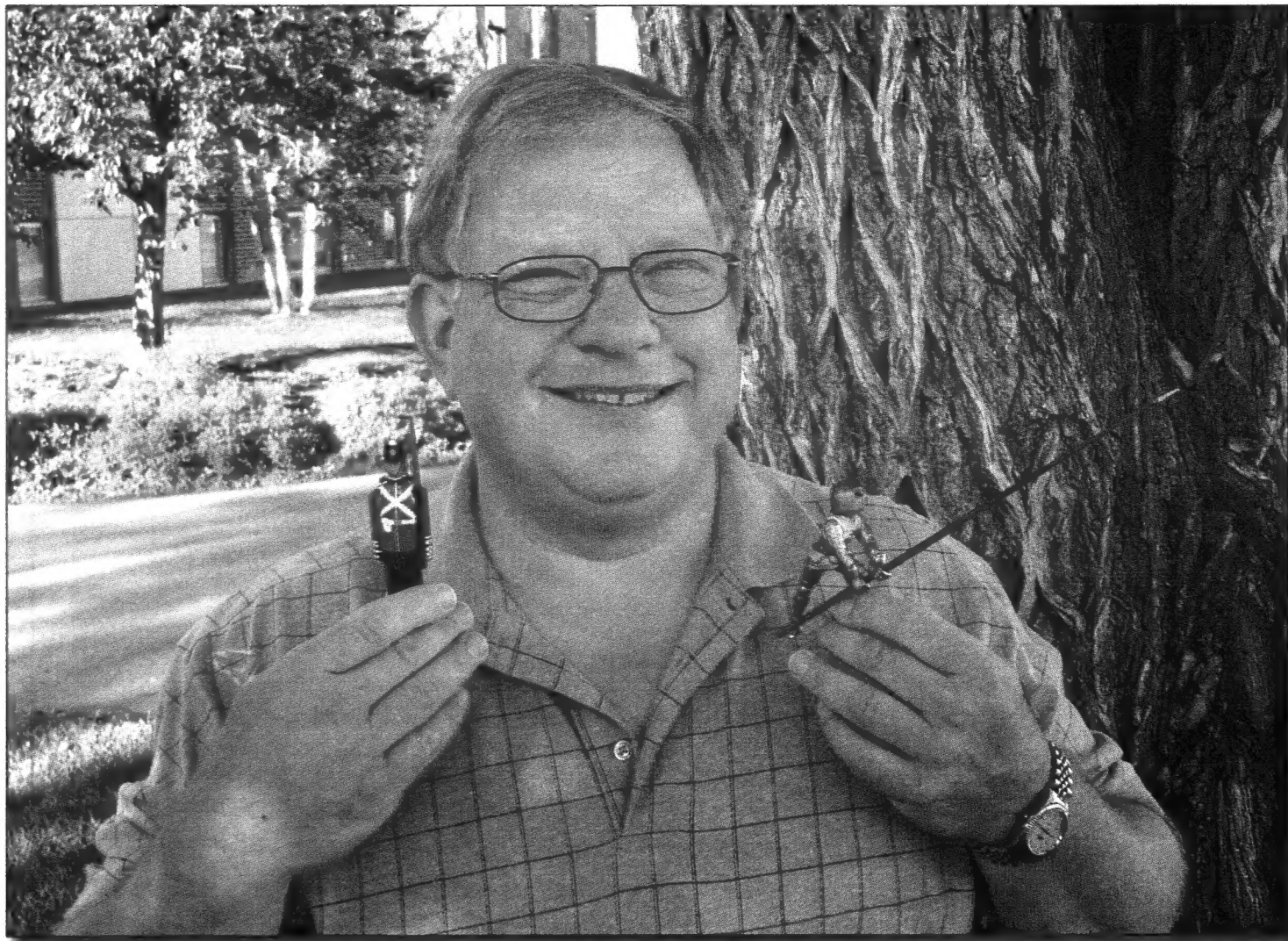
For over 15 years, Nielsen has visited elementary schools around Edmonton with an assortment of his medieval figures to do presentations on the Middle Ages.

"When you have a collection of this sort of stuff, it's not much fun to have it sitting up in your house, especially if you are an adult. One of the things I started doing was taking medieval toy soldiers out, along with castles, for elementary schools who have units in history or units in writing where they use a medieval theme," said Nielsen.

"There are some kids that may begin collecting because of that and there are a lot of ways for them to collect now. The other thing is that it just gives kids a better idea of what the Middle Ages were like." ■



Photos: Caitlin Crawshaw



Dr. Brian Nielsen has collected nearly 28,000 toy soldiers since boyhood.



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